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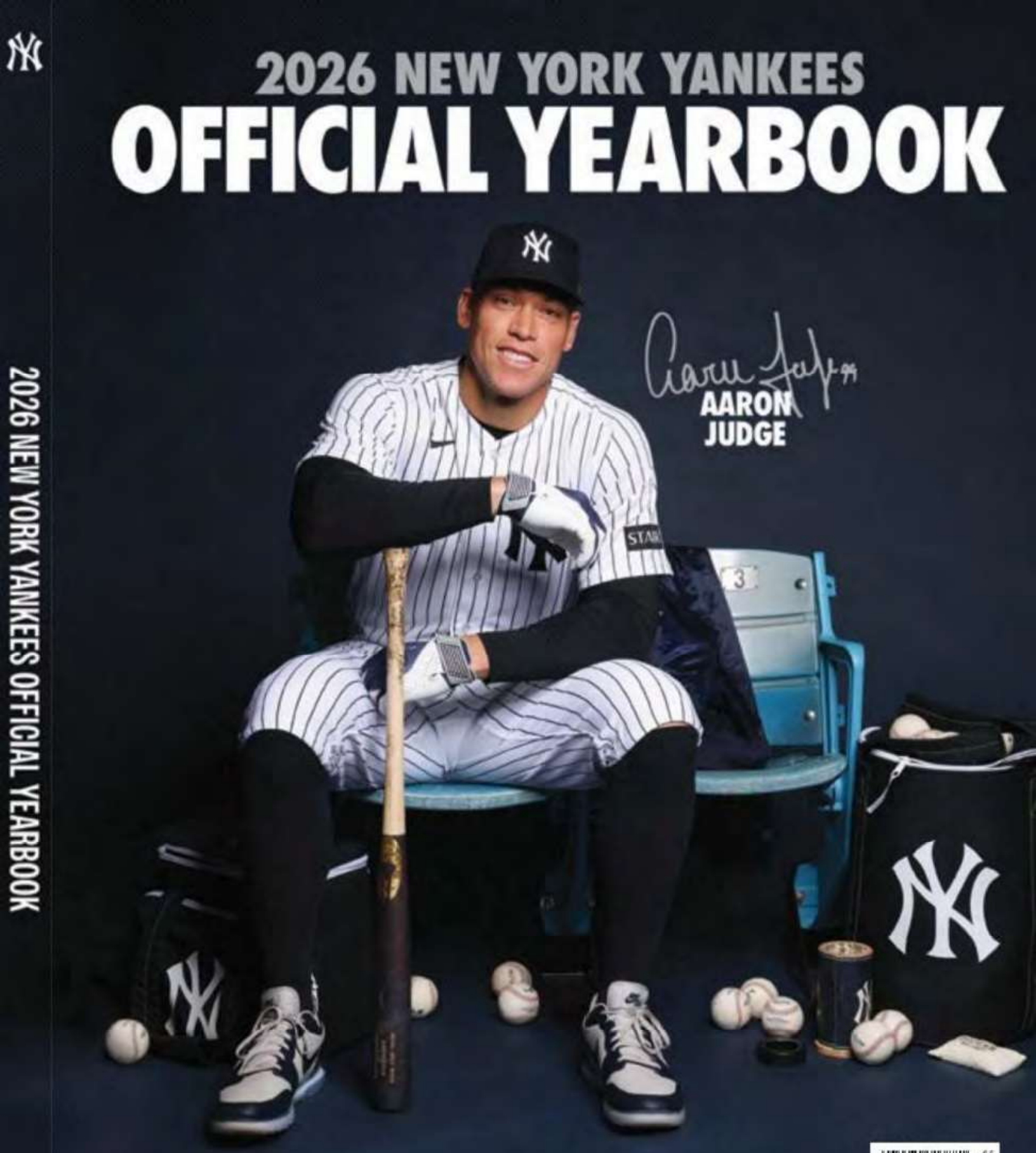

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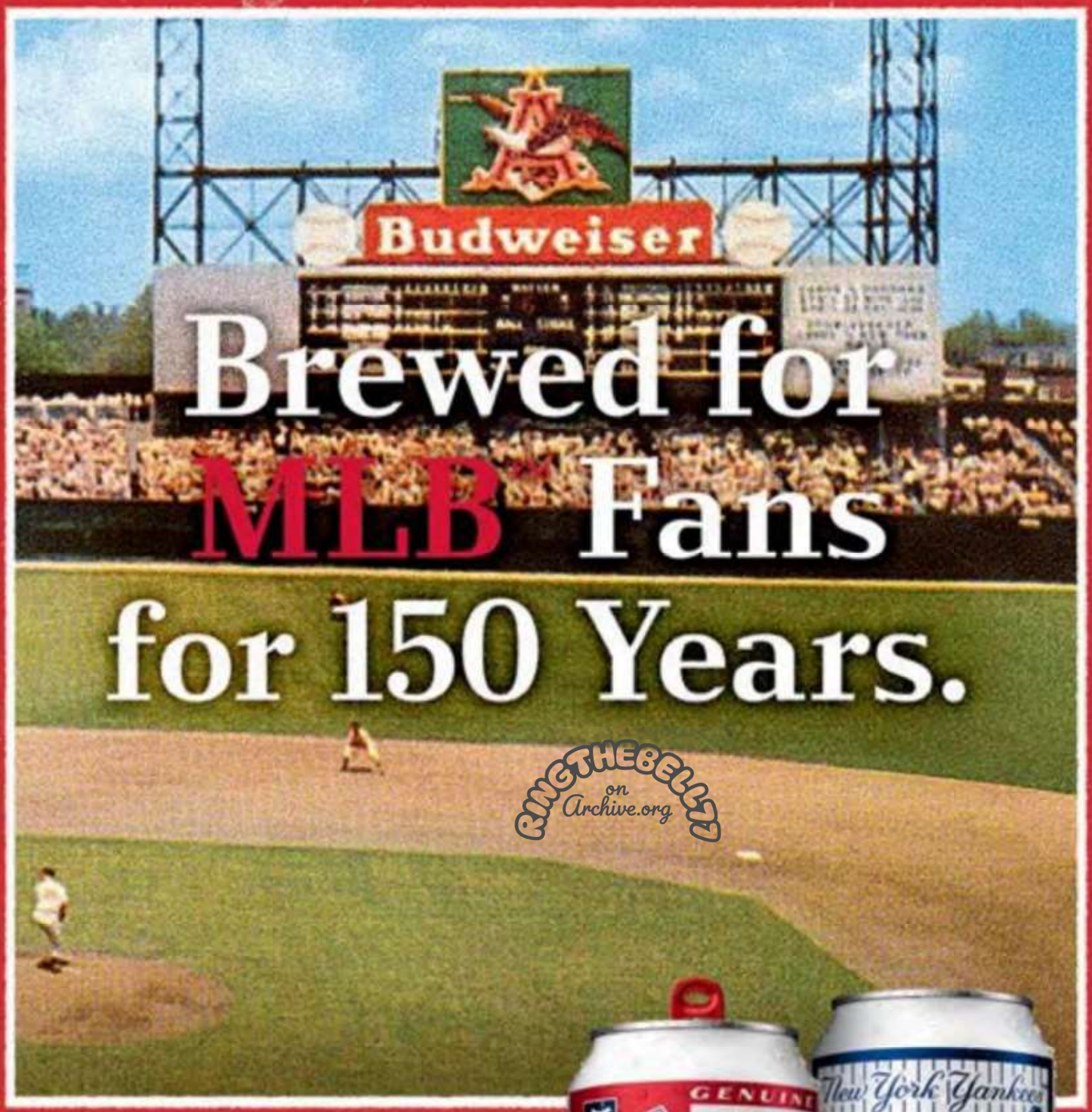

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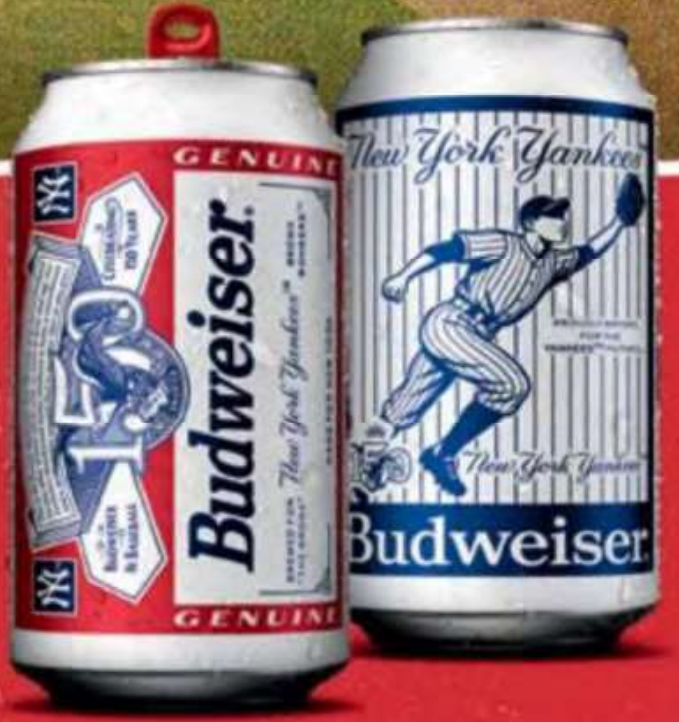

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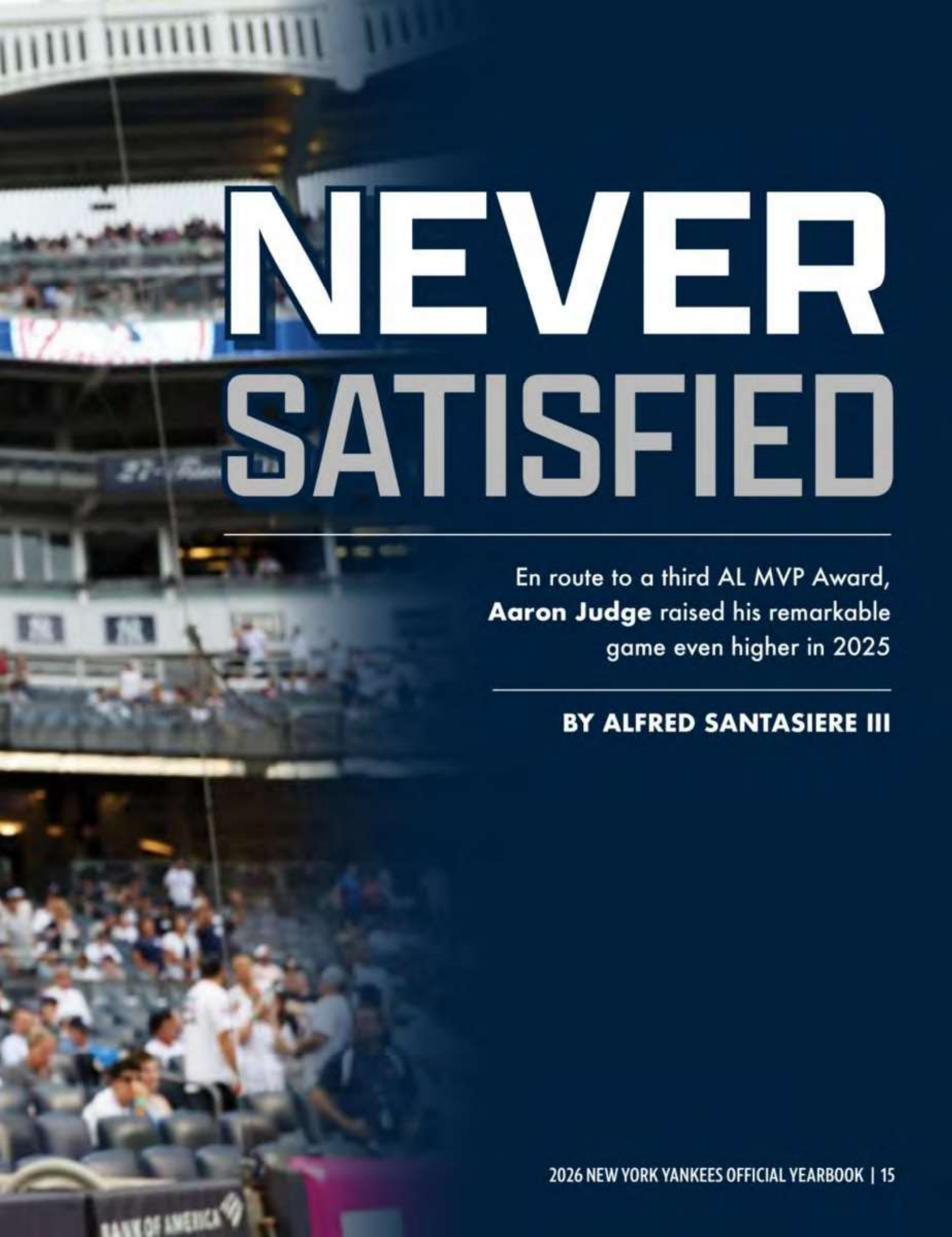

NEVER SATISFIED

En route to a third AL MVP Award, **Aaron Judge** raised his remarkable game even higher in 2025

BY ALFRED SANTASIERE III

AARON JUDGE

The Yankees' season was hanging by a thread. After dropping the first two games of the 2025 American League Division Series in Toronto, they trailed the Blue Jays again in Game 3 at Yankee Stadium. Down by three runs in the bottom of the fourth, the home team mounted its most significant rally of the series.

With one out, catcher Austin Wells reached on a pop fly that found its way to the ground, and center fielder Trent Grisham followed with a walk. Although it was early in the game, every one of the 47,399 fans in the Stadium could feel the gravity of the next at-bat. They were on their feet and cheering in unison.

The hottest hitter in the sport was about to step up to the plate. In an attempt to squash the Yankees' momentum, Blue Jays skipper John Schneider quickly went to the bullpen and brought in Louis Varland, a hard-throwing right-hander capable of reaching 100 mph.

After falling behind, 0-2, Aaron Judge lined a fastball down the left-field line that clanged off the foul pole, touching off bedlam in the Bronx. Just like that, the game was tied, and the Yankees had clawed their way back into the series.

In a postseason during which Judge batted an even .500 (13-for-26) in seven games, this was his biggest moment of the year — and a signature moment in his career. Even though the Yankees ultimately fell to Toronto in four games, Judge had given the Bronx faithful everything they could have asked for in that one swing.

"That was special just because of where we were at," Judge said in an exclusive *Yankees Magazine* interview in Tampa, Florida, during spring training. "If we don't win, we go home. We had to make a statement there. They brought in one of their best relief pitchers. You can easily get lost in the circumstances: two guys on base and a chance to tie the game. If I strike out, the opportunity to get back into the game is lost. I just made a point to enjoy the moment and stay aggressive and keep doing what I had been doing. Thankfully, the way the wind was blowing, it helped keep that one fair."

The fans in the Bronx were already on their feet when Judge stepped to the plate as the tying run in Game 3 of the 2025 American League Division Series. Once he made contact and mashed Varland's pitch off the left-field foul pole, it was absolute bedlam, a magical moment in a career already filled with them.

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AARON JUDGE

As thrilling as Judge's home run against Toronto was, it will go down merely as an exclamation point on another record-breaking MVP season for arguably the greatest player in the sport and the most accomplished hitter of the last decade.

A couple weeks after the 2025 postseason ended, Judge took home his third American League MVP Award in the last four seasons, becoming one of just 13 players in the history of either league to win the award three or more times and just the fourth Yankee. As was the case when Judge earned the honor in 2022 and 2024, he not only put together a regular-season performance that was the most prolific of any of his contemporaries but he also, again, made history.

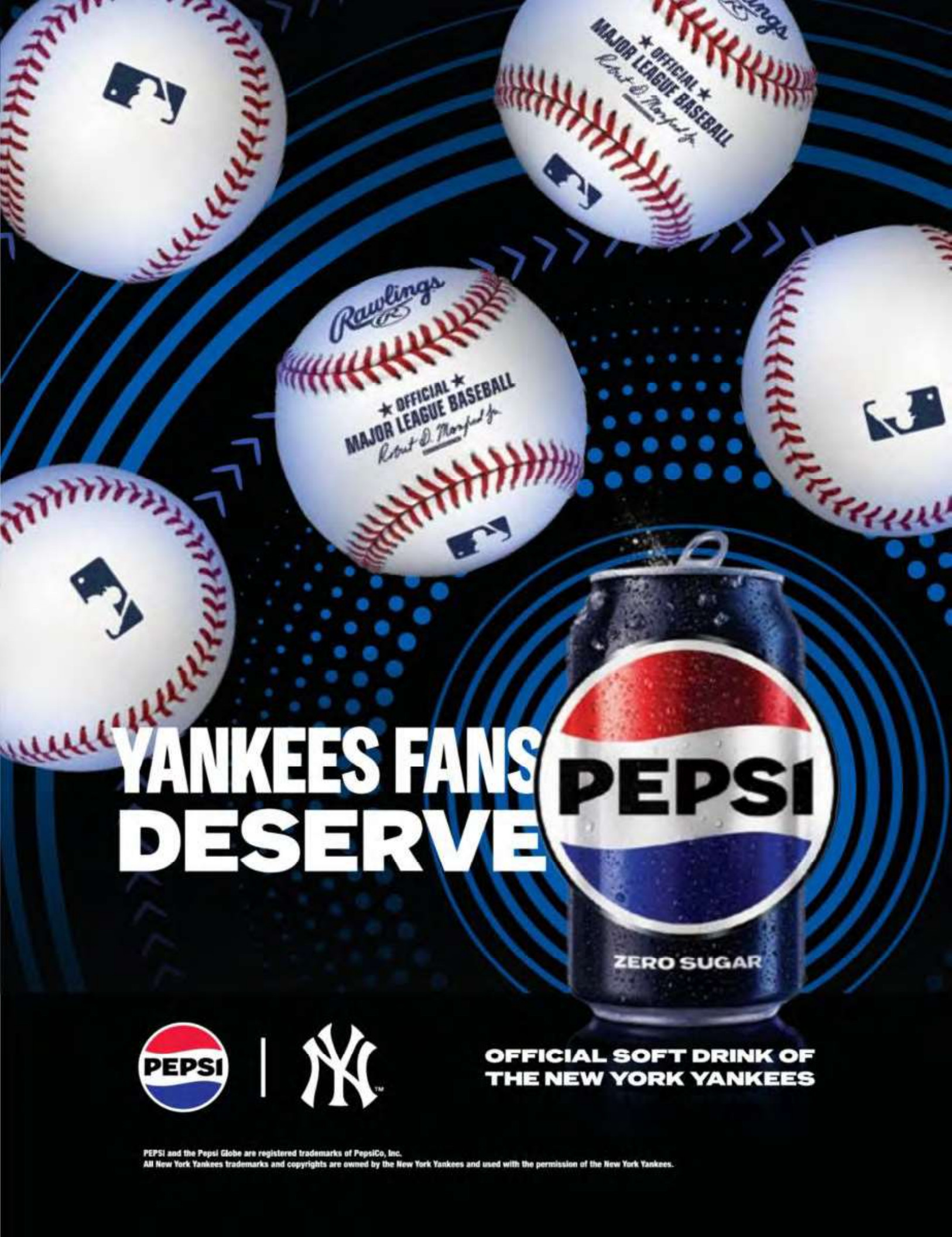
"Consistency is something that I've tried to improve on," Judge said. "I never looked at it as trying to be one of the greatest. I just want to be a player that my team can count on and that the fans see in the lineup every time they are at the Stadium or put the TV on. I want to be consistent and stay on the field and do all of the things that help us win."

In his most recent MVP season — which came three years after he broke the single-season American League home run record with 62 blasts in 2022 and a year after he became the first Yankee since Mickey Mantle won the Triple Crown in 1956 to capture the award unanimously — Judge again reached statistical heights never seen before.

In 2025, Judge won his first American League batting title with a career-high .331 average, a mark 20 points better than any other hitter in either league. His 53 home runs were the most ever by a batting champion, and only Mantle and Jimmie Foxx had previously won batting titles while hitting 50 or more homers.

While Judge's single-season home run totals garnered more attention

Judge's trophy haul continues to grow, with three AL MVP Awards (the latest coming in 2025) to go along with a host of other honors. The recognitions are meaningful and historic but ultimately not the main focus for a player who remains resolute in his pursuit of a championship. "I'm on a mission," Judge says. "There are still a lot of things driving me, especially trying to win a World Series."



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AARON JUDGE

For all the star power that Judge brings to the Yankees' lineup, he's far from the only bat capable of terrifying pitchers. Along with Bellinger [top], Stanton [middle] and Goldschmidt [above], Judge is one of four current Yankees to have won an MVP Award. Still, the Yankees captain can astound even the most accomplished teammates. "I've played with a lot of amazing hitters throughout my career," Bellinger says, "but what I saw Aaron do last year, I had never seen before."

than any of his other statistical feats during his first nine big-league seasons, his .331 average may have been his most impressive accomplishment, as well as the one for which he worked the hardest. Not only did Judge hit 86 points better than the major league average, but he also led the majors in on-base percentage (.457) by a whopping 58 points.

A career .294 hitter with 368 home runs heading into the 2026 season, Judge credits a recent shift in mindset with the rise in his batting average over the last four seasons.

"That's been my main focus," he said. "I think the biggest thing was just being honest with myself. I felt like that was one thing I was lacking, even going back to 2017. I had the home run numbers, but I wanted to be a complete hitter like Miguel Cabrera or Albert Pujols. I tried to model myself after guys like that, guys who hit .320 or .330, drove in 130 runs and hit 40 homers."

When reflecting on Judge's accomplishments from last season, Giancarlo Stanton lauded his close friend for his commitment to constantly improving during an era of unprecedented greatness.

"He has had some legendary seasons, which everyone in the sport has been marveling at," Stanton said. "But he's never satisfied. After the year he had in 2024, which, in my opinion, could not have been any more incredible, he was still looking at how he could get better. He wanted to improve his game, and he did. That's why he's an all-time great."

Judge also led the majors in OPS (1.144) and finished first in the AL in walks, total bases and runs scored. His 53 longballs trailed only Seattle's Cal Raleigh, who hit 60, and his 114 RBI were second most in the American League.

"I've played with a lot of amazing hitters throughout my career," said Cody Bellinger, who won the 2019 National League MVP and played alongside Judge for the first time last season. "But what I saw Aaron do last year, I had never seen before. I have never seen anything even close to what he did.

"Especially when I was hitting behind him, it was incredible to watch him approach each at-bat. People see the production, but what they don't always grasp is how differently other teams pitch to Aaron in comparison to just about every other player in the American League. Because Aaron can put runs on the board with his power and also by getting a single or double with guys on base, he gets fewer pitches to hit during each at-bat. He led the league in walks and hit more than 50 home runs and won a batting title. That is a rare accomplishment, and it's even more impressive for a player whose reputation preceded him as much as Aaron's did prior to last season."

Judge's journey to his third MVP Award began with a scorching start in 2025. After collecting an RBI double in an Opening Day win over Milwaukee, the Yankees captain blasted three home runs in the second game of the season and

followed up with his fourth home run of the campaign in the third game.

Judge remained on a feverish pace through the first full month of the season, earning AL Player of the Month honors for March/April. Heading into May, he was batting .427 with 10 home runs.

"I came into the season focused on putting our team in the best position possible, especially considering how many good teams there were in the AL East," Judge said. "I worked really hard in spring training to get into a good groove and take that into the regular season. We had just lost Juan Soto to the Mets, and although we had brought in some other good players, you never know where the team is going to be or what is going to happen. I wanted to set the tone for the season and get off to a better start than I did the previous April. I wanted to be there for the team, especially after we lost such a great player."

With Stanton out of the lineup with an injury and Bellinger struggling at the start of his pinstriped tenure, Judge continued to carry the offense in May. He hit 11 more home runs, and his batting average was still within a few points of .400 on Memorial Day. Judge won AL Player of the Month honors for his May performance, and the Yankees went 16-6 in their last 22 games of the month.

"The great thing about Aaron is that he doesn't really care about the individual accomplishments," said Paul Goldschmidt, the 2022 National League MVP who joined the Yankees prior to last season. "Ultimately, he wants this team to be successful, and that rubs off on everyone. People on this team follow his example from the amount of work he puts in before spring training to the way he challenges pitchers in every at-bat — and I mean *every* at-bat. For someone who had not been around him before last year, that was something that really stood out right away. He was hitting a lot of home runs and setting himself up for another MVP season, but he was far more determined to put his team in a good place heading into the heart of the playoff race."

As the season rolled along, Judge also reached several career landmarks, including his 350th career home run on July 12. The milestone came in his 1,088th career game, making him the fastest player in history to 350 in terms of games played.

Judge's size and power have helped him make home run history throughout his career. But every year, the slugger works to improve his all-around game, and the results were evident in 2025. En route to the AL MVP Award, Judge led the major leagues with a .331 batting average, joining Hall of Famers Mickey Mantle and Jimmie Foxx as the only hitters to win a batting title while hitting 50 or more homers.

Not long after that, Judge leapfrogged several all-time greats to move into fourth place on the Yankees' career home runs list, surpassing Alex Rodriguez at 351, Yogi Berra at 358 and Joe DiMaggio at 361.

Although Judge is proud of any comparison to those fellow MVPs, he's also wary of letting anything he has already done creep too deep into his thoughts.

"Those guys are legends of the game," said Judge, who turns 34 in April. "Joe DiMaggio and Yogi Berra have been gone for years, but you still see people wearing their jerseys at Yankee Stadium. That shows you how important they still are to the fabric of the game.

"I don't want to compare myself to them because their careers are over with. Their stories are already finished, and I'm in the middle of mine. If I look up and compare myself to them, I might slack off a bit, and I don't want to do that. When my career is done and my story is completely written, then I can look back and see where I stack up against those guys. I'm on a mission. There are still a lot of things driving me, especially trying to win a World Series. That's something that all of those guys have, and I don't. So, I still have a lot of work to do."

Two weeks after playing in his seventh All-Star Game, Judge's quest for a third MVP got a lot more difficult. While making a throw from right field, he suffered a flexor strain in his right elbow. Although the injury didn't require surgery, it took the captain out of the lineup from July 26 through Aug. 4 and then relegated him to the designated hitter role until September. During that time, Judge worked diligently with the team's training staff to strengthen his throwing arm, while also maintaining a steadfast approach at the plate.

"There was some unknown about the magnitude of the injury and what was going to happen," said Judge, who was noticeably reticent to fire balls in from the outfield, instead accepting the rare limitation. "There was some loss of strength there, and I was just trying to deal with that. I was going to doctor's appointments and trying to figure it all out. We had a great training

Much more than an elite hitter, Judge also provides excellent defense, but he had to deal with an elbow issue in 2025 that compromised his ability to throw the ball in from the outfield. The captain missed a handful of games and had to adjust his throws when he returned, but whatever pain he felt certainly didn't impact his swing. "He doesn't allow obstacles to slow him down," Stanton says.

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staff that helped speed up the recovery process, but it was definitely a struggle. There were some mechanical things that I had to change and things I had to fix."

From the time Judge returned to the lineup on Aug. 5 through the end of August, he belted six home runs while batting .241. But he got hot again in the final month of the regular season, batting .370 with 10 longballs in September.

"When I got back into the lineup, I had to get my timing back," Judge said. "But because of the team around me, I could still be a force in the lineup by hitting singles. Once I got my timing back to where it had been, it was time to roll."

Stanton, who has had to make numerous comebacks from injury during his career, was as impressed with Judge's in-season rebound as he was with anything else the captain accomplished in 2025.

"He doesn't allow obstacles to slow him down," Stanton said. "That's his mentality. For a normal player, the situation he had with his elbow would have influenced their swing and given them something to fall back on if they were not playing as well. But that was just another thing that motivated Aaron."

Judge's late-season surge helped him eclipse the 50-home run plateau for the fourth time in his career, tying him with Ruth, Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa for the most seasons with that distinction.

While that mark of repeated dominance puts Judge squarely in the conversation about the most vaunted power hitters of all time, he remains much more than a generational hitter. He has earned the respect of his teammates — and the captaincy of the New York Yankees — through a blend of leadership and work ethic.

"He has a consistent mindset," Goldschmidt said. "He plays every game really hard and wants to win. When you watch the kind of work he puts in behind the scenes and the preparation he puts in, you realize why he's been so great. He's the most valuable player on the team and in the league."

Stanton's appreciation for what Judge has accomplished goes far beyond physical skills. Stanton won the National League MVP with the Marlins in 2017, hitting 59 home runs that year. If that season taught him anything, it's that in order to outperform every other player in the league over a 162-game season, there can be virtually no letdown in focus or effort, regardless of what else is going on.

"The mental aspect is the hardest part of the game," Stanton said. "Dealing with all aspects of life and still being able to lock in and perform every night at the highest level on the planet, that's what separates an MVP from everyone else. When I think about what Aaron did last season, or in his other two MVP seasons, he was able to block everything else out, day in and day out, including what happened on the field the previous day. He was totally focused on the task at hand every day, and he produced consistently."

As incredible as Judge's body of work has been, the most unbelievable part of his story so far might be how quickly he has established himself as one of the game's all-time greats. It may seem as though he has been dominating the sport forever, but in reality, it has been less than a decade.

"The first five years were like an introduction, trying to figure out who I was," Judge said. "There were a lot of unknowns, and that was the coolest part of that time frame. I would say the last five years, we were getting into the heart of the story."

As for the next five years of this story, there will probably be several more dramatic home runs, just like the one he hit against the Blue Jays that sent the home crowd into euphoria. For one of the game's true unicorns, there might even be additional MVP awards or batting titles. But as ever, nothing will motivate Judge more than capturing that highly coveted World Series championship.

In every facet of the game, the captain is still finding new ways to amaze on the field. Never content and never complacent, Judge is willing to do anything necessary to remain one of the best players in the sport – and of this generation. After a year in which he moved into fourth place on the Yankees' all-time home runs list behind Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle and Lou Gehrig, Judge will continue to chase those legends' most important achievements – their World Series rings.

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VALUE Proposition

How do you quantify the immeasurable worth of three-time MVP Aaron Judge?

By Jon Schwartz

AARON JUDGE

Anthony Rizzo took his place behind the rostrum in late January, flanked by the best baseball players in today's game. The former first baseman, recently retired and looking trim and happy in his sharp tuxedo, was tasked with presenting the 2025 American League MVP Award to his good friend Aaron Judge.

What do you even say in a moment like that? With Judge, the hyperbole is real; the superlatives aren't cliche. It's all just ... true. If you win an MVP Award, it means you had a great season, one worth saluting and remembering. If you win two, you're almost certainly a great player.

Three? That's reserved for the titans: Jimmie Foxx, Joe DiMaggio, Stan Musial, Roy Campanella, Yogi Berra, Mickey Mantle, Mike Schmidt, Alex Rodriguez, Albert Pujols, Mike Trout, Shohei Ohtani and Barry Bonds. And now Aaron Judge.

It's a tough test, taking measure of a man in a short speech, fully aware that everything that can be said already has. Judge's 2025 season was obviously remarkable; they all have been, in different ways, since his astonishing 2017 AL Rookie of the Year campaign (when, it's worth noting, he finished second in MVP voting).

Judge's 53 homers, the batting title, the incredible reliability ... you don't need to work hard to state the case for the Yankees' captain. But Seattle's Cal Raleigh had pretty remarkable stats, too, some even better than Judge's.

So, Rizzo stepped to the microphone and spoke nearly 900 words, some five minutes, before he mentioned even one thing that Judge had done with his bat. This was a vibes-only moment, and Rizzo was on point with his thesis.

"He's the most special person I've ever been around," Rizzo said. "There's a lot of great players, a lot of great history in the New York Yankees organization. And right behind me, who's about to accept this award, is arguably the greatest to ever put on the pinstripes."

"Tonight, we honor an MVP season. But this room really knows that baseball is better because Aaron Judge is in it."

No one on the Yankees' roster has a bigger physical presence, but Judge's footprint has always proven well larger than his size 17 shoe.

"He's been great since Day 1," says Hal Steinbrenner, the team's managing general partner and chairperson who, beyond his commitment to winning every year, also inherited his father's instinct to serve the public good. "He knows my family. He knows what's important to us and the work we do and how we like to be involved."

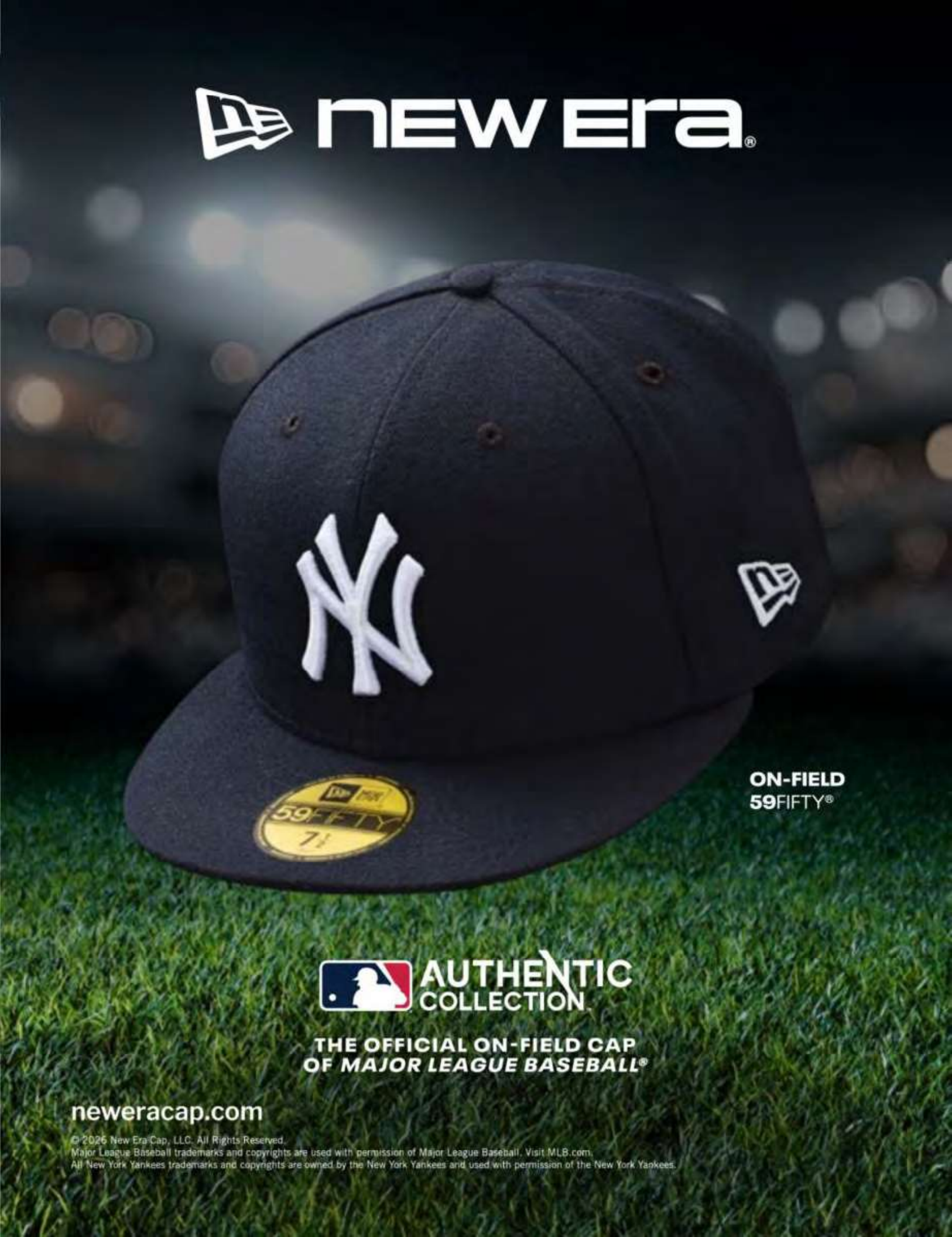
In 2018, Judge established his All Rise Foundation, dedicated to helping children develop citizenship skills and reach their greatest potential. The foundation has made a huge impact on youth in New York City and Judge's home state of California. For those around Judge, it was clear even before he reached the majors that giving back would be hugely important to him, and he quickly worked to emulate leaders such as CC Sabathia and Derek Jeter, following their examples as his profile grew.

Jeter recalls the "Captain's Camp" he would run for young Yankees prospects after he retired in 2014. Judge, drafted in 2013, made an immediate impression on the legendary shortstop.

"You could tell when you're speaking who's paying attention and who's not; who's really listening and who's not," Jeter says. "And I always found him to be a sponge for knowledge. He stood out, obviously, because of his size. But I think more so than that, you tend to notice when people are paying attention and listening."

Judge would follow in Jeter's footsteps, earning the title of Yankees captain after 2022, his first MVP season, then signing a

His work on the field is clearly award-worthy, but Judge has always taken his responsibilities with fans just as seriously. Whether participating in HOPE Week activities or just engaging with a young fan before a game – often kneeling down so as to make his 6-foot-7 frame less imposing – Judge is a perfect ambassador for everything the Steinbrenner family hopes the Yankees represent.



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long-term deal to remain in New York. But the next year, he would follow the Hall of Famer in another meaningful way. Judge won the 2023 Roberto Clemente Award, which goes to the big leaguer who best mixes work in the community with on-field greatness. Ask players around the league, and there's little question that the award is among the most meaningful a baseball player can receive.

Willie Mays was the first honoree in 1971 (when it was named the Commissioner's Award; it would be named in memory of Clemente in 1973, after the outfielder's tragic death while on a humanitarian mission). In total, 21 Hall of Famers — including Jeter — have won it, and recent honorees such as Pujols, Clayton Kershaw, Yadier Molina, Mookie Betts and Judge figure to add to that tally.

A baseball team's captaincy is something of an enigma. Not every team has one, and there are no official responsibilities that come with it; there's no coin toss in baseball, nor are there limitations on who is and isn't allowed to plead with umpires. It is a leadership honorific, but it isn't, definitionally, ambassadorial.

Judge, though, clearly views the role as an extension of all that he has valued since the beginning. In stadiums across the country, Judge is remarkable in his interactions with children, always chatting and signing autographs for kids, and notably willing to get down on one knee to better look a child in the eye. Every year during HOPE Week, when the entire team branches out into the community, Judge is front and center, never hiding behind other duties to get a day off from dancing to brighten people's day, or anything of that nature. And when he was asked to participate in the annual Steinbrenner Family Children's Holiday Concerts in Tampa, Florida, during the offseason, he jumped at the chance, teaming up with his wife, Samantha, to read "A Visit from St. Nicholas" with the backing of the Florida Orchestra.

"There are no words," says Jennifer Steinbrenner Swindal, the Yankees' general partner and vice chairperson. "He is a machine. And he is such an amazing ballplayer to watch. Just as importantly, you want to see how he is with people. And I think that's where I'm the proudest of him: his interaction with children."

The message — and the expectations that create it — resonate with Judge.

"You're more than a baseball player," he says. "Baseball is just one part of the job. It's an important job. We want to go out there and win. We want to go and bring a championship back to New York. But it's the little impacts, the little experiences you get to do. This is stuff we'll be talking about for years to come. It's a message I try to share with a lot of the minor leaguers that haven't even made it up to the big leagues yet. They're so focused on getting up to the big leagues — *I'm just going to play ball* — and that's all important, but getting a chance to play for the Yankees, it's a lot more than just baseball."

It could be that he grew up in a house with two educators, who always demanded that he prioritize school. But as teammates go, you're not likely to find any better teacher than Aaron Judge.

Teammates such as Chisholm [top, L] and Stanton [above, L] know they can always count on No. 99, whether to create his own magic or help them unlock a bit of their own. Ever since he was a young up-and-comer himself, Judge has been an incredibly generous teammate, always happier praising one of his buddies than taking any of the acclaim for himself. Yarbrough calls it "a byproduct of him genuinely wanting guys to succeed and be the best they can be."

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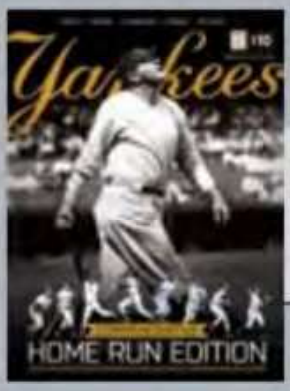

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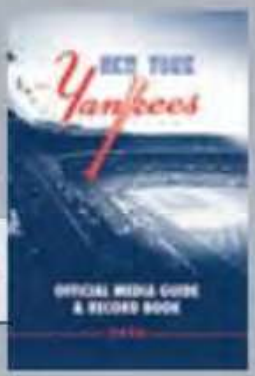

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AARON JUDGE

Everyone can learn something from the Yankees' captain. He desperately wants to win, but it's clear in talking to him, observing him or just checking in with the other guys in the Yankees' clubhouse how much value he both adds to and extracts from those around him.

His selflessness can be, admittedly, a challenge for writers trying to get color from the slugger after a moment of great achievement. Judge is nearly incapable of discussing his own feats without diverting the attention to those around him. "It was a cool moment," Judge says of his three-run homer in the 2025 ALDS, the one that tied an elimination game and created a seismic event in and around the Bronx. "That's all it was, just a moment." He reserves his emotional response for excitedly pointing out that the blast put Jazz Chisholm Jr. in a position to hit a go-ahead shot one inning later.

Measuring a player's value is largely tied up in understanding what he, himself, does. But how do you measure the things that Judge does for those around him, the things that allow them to be *their* best? When Yankees general manager Brian Cashman was shopping in the free-agent market this offseason, he knew that Judge was also working the phones, checking in with Cody Bellinger, and he knows that he can pitch the opportunity to play with one of the all-timers. "Having one of the greatest players on the planet is an attractive component," Cashman says. But it's not just about the stars at the top of the call sheet.

Ryan Yarbrough signed with the Yankees as camp was breaking at the end of spring training 2025. He showed up just in time to get on the team bus to the airport. That's a weird time for any newcomer, and even though Yarbrough vaguely knew a bunch of his new teammates from competing against them with the Rays for many years, it still was a less-than-optimal way to start in a new environment.

"He was the first guy that really came over and talked to me," Yarbrough says of Judge. "We've played against each other enough, we're friendly. And he's just like, 'Man, I'm pumped you're here.'"

Those aren't just throwaway comments. Judge is a hard worker and a deep thinker, with worlds of insight to share with teammates. More notable than that, though, is his willingness. Yarbrough says that he has asked Judge for advice on how a batter reacts to his arsenal on the mound. What does he look for? Which pitches does he eliminate? Likewise, Yankees hitters know that there's an encyclopedia of knowledge wearing No. 99, and that Judge is more than willing to share the goods.

It makes sense: Judge wants to win a championship. "Since I got up with the Yankees, and even before that, I just wanted to be a team player that not only elevated *my* game, I wanted to push the guys around me to elevate *their* game a little bit," Judge says.

If that sounds obvious, it's at least worth noting that growing up in Northern California, Judge marveled at everything that Bonds did, watching in awe as the Giants' slugger chased down the single-season and all-time home run records. Bonds, though, was a complicated character, as he acknowledged a few years back in an interview on Sabathia's "R2C2" podcast. "I wasn't the best clubhouse guy, that's for damn sure," he said. It wasn't just that he was surly and combative with fans and the media. Bonds noted that he also didn't want to share his intel with the guys on his team because, as he said, baseball is a business, and at some point, today's teammate could be tomorrow's opponent. "It was just, 'Hey Barry, what do you see?' 'I see a pitcher.' 'What does he do?' I'd say, 'He throws balls and strikes.'"

Bonds was strictly business, and not in uniformly bad ways; home runs give your team a better chance to win, and Bonds hit 762 of them. But his process was about devoting everything to making himself the best baseball player possible, so much so that he didn't want to spend even a second worrying about a teammate. To Bonds, winning or losing was not something you could control; all you could do was focus on your own output.

Everything about Judge shows a competitor who believes the opposite. "I could

go 4-for-4 and have the best game in the world, but we can still lose," he says. "But if I can find a way to motivate the guys around me to do a little better or push a little harder? It takes all nine guys in that lineup to win a ballgame."

Even in Judge's version, though, there's more to it than just a desire to follow the perfect winning recipe. "I don't think of it as like, 'Hey, I'm going to do this so I can make the team better,'" Yarbrough says of Judge's counsel. "I think that's kind of a byproduct of him genuinely wanting guys to succeed and be the best they can be."

Or, as Bellinger says, "What he does on the field is truly special, but what he brings into the locker room, what he brings as a teammate and the confidence that he instills in everyone in that locker room, he's a huge part of the success of this organization."

Of course, there is also the baseball, the piece of the Aaron Judge puzzle most visible to the public. It's the side of the player you see on *MLB Tonight* or *SportsCenter*, the thing you buy a ticket to experience.

Last year, Judge cracked the top five on the Yankees' all-time home runs list, ending the year in fourth place after passing Yogi Berra and Joe DiMaggio. Ahead of him are three more Mt. Rushmore–class Hall of Famers: Lou Gehrig, Mickey Mantle and Babe Ruth.

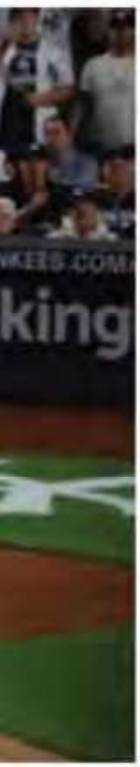
It's an astonishing thing, really. A scant few of the fans watching Judge today were alive to witness the feats of Ruth or Gehrig. Even the Mantle era is generations in the past. Yet every night during the summer, you can turn on your TV and watch a new and remarkable assault on the history books of the sport's most historic franchise. Judge is one of 26 on the Yankees' roster, but more and more, he's keeping company with the absolute icons of American sports history.

"The Hall of Fame is one thing, right?" says manager Aaron Boone. "I mean, the best of the best. And especially in baseball, it's probably the hardest Hall of Fame to enter. But even within that Hall of Fame, I think there's what they call the 'inner circle' of that Hall of Fame, right? And that's where Aaron's putting himself."

We could spend weeks discussing the finer details, and Judge would swat each one away. He's a big guy with a powerful swing, and he hits a lot of home runs. We get it. But beneath the surface, even the raw home run totals hide a bigger story. After Judge hit that remarkable bomb against the Blue Jays in the Division Series, everyone heard the crazy stats: It was the only pitch outside of the strike zone that he had hit out of the park all season. It was the farthest pitch out of the strike zone that he had *ever* hit for a homer. It was even the fastest pitch that he had ever blasted into the seats. And we're not just talking about some whoopsy-doo wall-scraper. Judge crushed a high, inside 99.7 mph fastball two-thirds of the way up the left-field foul pole.

In a pressure-packed moment, Judge essentially abandoned so much of the plate discipline that has made him elite — the very discernment that helped make him a first-time batting champion in 2025 — and demolished a ball like never before.

But let's dig a bit deeper into the home run numbers. Last year, 20 of Judge's 53 bombs — about 38% — came in the first



What can you even say about the baseball skills at this point? Judge will cross the 10-year mark in service time this year, and his feats continue to defy belief. When he launched an epic home run in Game 3 of the 2025 American League Division Series, it was somehow both completely in character and totally unlike any moment the slugger had created in his career. The reaction, from fans in the Bronx to the millions watching on TV, was absolute mania – a truly unforgettable scene.

inning. Eleven of them were on the road, and nine with the game still scoreless.

Consider the opening frame. Pitchers are finding their way. Batters are trying to figure out what they're working with. There's a whole lot of baseball left to play. And Judge is on the attack. No other player in the league last year was close to Judge's 20 first-inning homers. Ohtani, Raleigh and Julio Rodríguez all tied with 14.

And this isn't just a 2025 thing. Since the beginning of the 2017 season, Judge has 85 first-inning blasts. In that period, Kyle Schwarber ranks next on the list with 71. Judge has just the 12th-most plate appearances during that time period, but he also ranks third in walks.

There's obviously nothing like a ninth-inning blast, and to be clear, Judge has hit plenty of those as well. But the first-inning dominance is so impactful in setting a tone and laying out a road map for his teammates.

Boone doubts that it's a function of getting at a pitcher who isn't locked in yet. "Any time a team or an opposing pitcher is facing Aaron Judge, they're on top of things," the manager says.

So, what is it? How is the one guy you can't let beat you constantly beating you so quickly?

To Judge, it boils down to preparation, to the video he studies and the charts he memorizes. He knows that a lineup as deep as the Yankees' will wear on pitchers, but he doesn't wait to pounce on a tired arm. He's ready from jump, eager to capitalize on the first mistake a pitcher might make, knowing it could be the only one. "It might be the very first pitch I see in the game, or it might be the pitch I see in the ninth inning to end the game," Judge says. "If I can help everybody else on the team kind of relax and say, 'Hey, we got a lead. Everybody just go out there and do your job and try not to do too much,' that's been my main focus."

Mission accomplished.

In April of 2025, Mark DeRosa, an MLB Network analyst and co-host of the Emmy-nominated *MLB Central*, visited Yankee Stadium for a momentous press conference. The manager of Team USA announced that Judge would be his captain for the 2026 World Baseball Classic.

"When I was named manager," DeRosa said, "the first guy I thought of was No. 99. I wanted

From his earliest days in the organization, Judge impressed Jeter [top, R], the previous player to hold the title of Yankees captain. "I always found him to be a sponge for knowledge," Jeter says. "You tend to notice when people are paying attention and listening." Now an established veteran, Judge is a manager's dream in every way, and Boone [above, L] is well aware that he is sharing a dugout with a guy who will likely one day be regarded as an "inner circle" Hall of Famer.

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him to be the captain." In January, just two months before the tournament would begin, DeRosa was still beaming about temporarily borrowing the Yankees' captain, and what he hoped it would mean for a U.S. squad that lost in the championship game in 2023.

"I just think he's the all-encompassing perfect guy to lead the United States team," DeRosa said. "And I think if you polled his peers, they would have voted him unanimously."

To DeRosa, Judge is the whole package. He's a leader and a motivator, a guy who wears his hunger for all to see. Team USA's skipper looks at Judge and doesn't see any of the ballplayers that he, himself, played with in a 16-year big-league career. Instead, he points to a sports icon most associated with wizardry: Magic Johnson.

Johnson was a remarkable player, capable of doing anything on the basketball court. But he also remade the position of point guard. He was a creator, the type of player who thrived by elevating everyone around him. "You've never really seen a guy of Judge's size control the strike zone the way he does, hit homers the way he does, play defense, control the media, handle himself so well on and off the field," DeRosa says. He lists some of the greats he played with — Pujols, Chipper Jones, Andruw Jones, Buster Posey — and how Judge, like them, is able to raise everyone else's level. "Just through osmosis, we get to relax and do our job because we have our pillar," DeRosa says. "He's going to carry us, and we're going to uplift him and try and honor him by playing well."

That message is plenty familiar to those who get to be around the captain for more than just a short tournament. Boone knows what to expect on the field from Judge, but more than that, he knows the benefits everyone derives from him off the diamond as well.

"He is obviously probably the best player in the sport, this generation's greatest player," Boone says. "But I think everyone that comes in contact with him — whether it's his teammates, his peers, his opponents — everyone realizes what a special human being he is. We're proud to have him as our captain, as the face of our team, as the face of this organization. He represents us very well."

The sky is the limit for Judge, who turns 34 this April. Mentally, though, Judge sees little difference between the sky and the floor. There's one measure that matters most — championships — and Judge is still chasing his first. For all the ways he approaches his pursuit of baseball greatness differently from Bonds, neither has won a World Series ring — *yet*, in Judge's case.

Judge will keep on chasing. He'll keep studying pitchers, and he'll keep sharing his intel. He'll pounce when the time is right, and he'll collect accolades and awards and whatever else the baseball world has to offer along the way. And to those around him, Judge will return all that he ever has — the love, the respect, the pure kindness that fans and teammates have come to expect. The man whose importance on the field is so obvious will continue to redefine what it means to be valuable.

"He pours more into his teammates than anyone I've ever seen," Rizzo said of the Yankees' captain, once again — and likely not for the last time — his league's most valuable player. "Anyone he meets, their day is better after meeting Aaron Judge."

Judge puts in the work so that he can enjoy the spoils. While he has earned the right to lead his teammates onto the October stage plenty of times, he is still chasing a ring. No one who has played with or watched the three-time MVP doubts that he will do everything possible to cross that off his list someday, all while remaining true to his values – and his value. Simply put, "Baseball is better," Rizzo says, "because Aaron Judge is in it."

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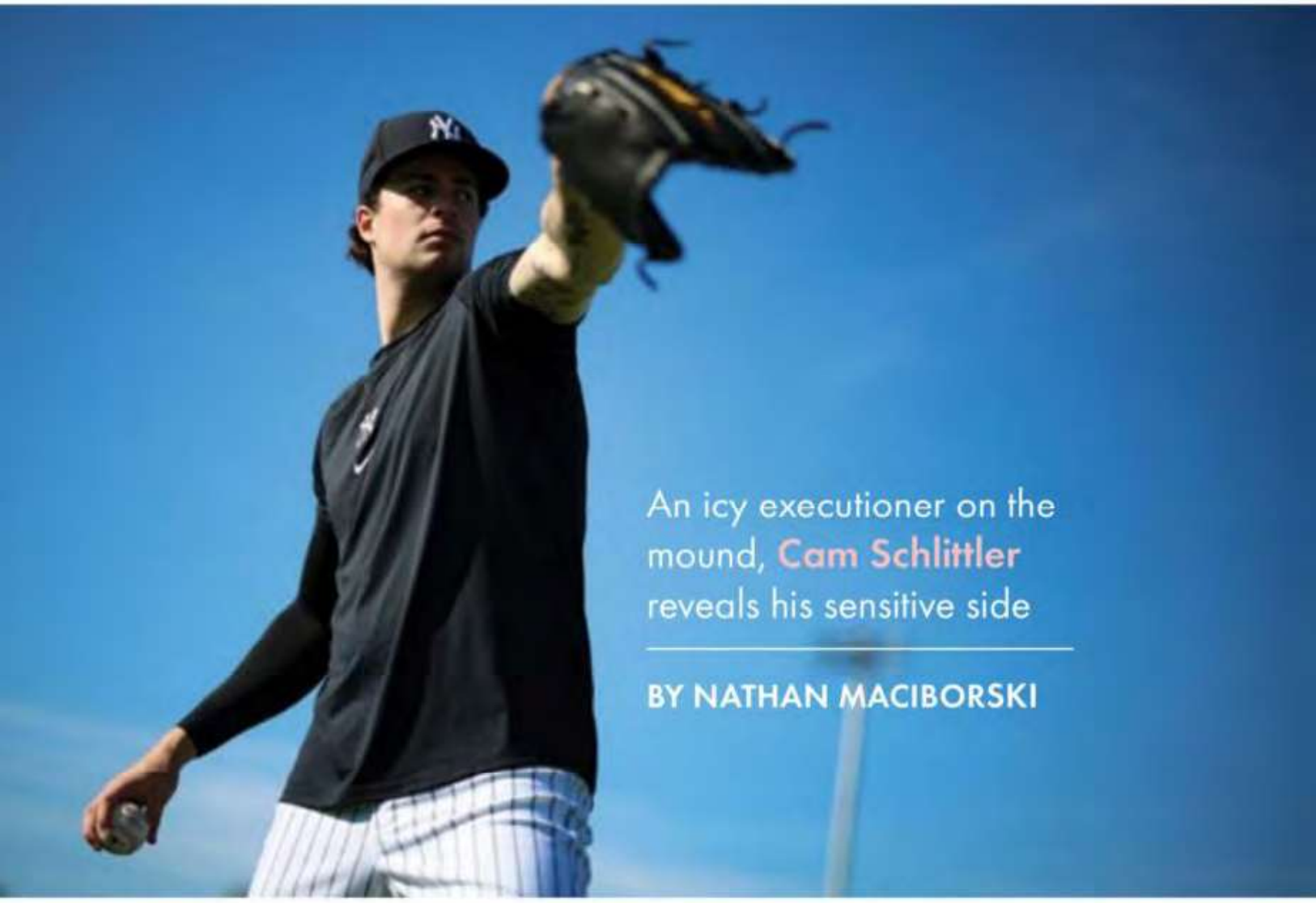

An icy executioner on the mound, **Cam Schlittler** reveals his sensitive side

BY NATHAN MACIBORSKI

DUALITY

CAM SCHLITTLER

As the Yankees slugged their way to a season-opening sweep of the Milwaukee Brewers in 2025, the name Cam Schlittler wasn't necessarily top of mind in the Bronx. A seventh-round pick in 2022 out of Northeastern, he had produced a breakout 2024 season in the minors, earning South Atlantic League Pitcher of the Year honors for his work (6-4, 2.60 ERA in 17 starts) with the Hudson Valley Renegades as well as the Kevin Lawn Award as the top pitcher in the Yanks' farm system. But as he began his '25 campaign in Hartford, Connecticut, with Double-A Somerset, he still had room to grow before topping any list of top prospects. There certainly hadn't been many eyes on him throughout that offseason as he toiled away in relative anonymity, working to add muscle to his body and further refine his mechanics.

If Schlittler had any questions as to how much those winter workouts would pay off, they were quickly answered. Riding a supercharged 100 mph fastball, he shot up from Double-A to Triple-A to the big leagues by midsummer. In August, he became the first Yankees rookie to record at least eight strikeouts and allow zero runs in back-to-back starts. As the calendar flipped to September, he had allowed the fewest runs (14) by any Yankees pitcher through his first nine career starts and was being touted by manager Aaron Boone as "a future staple of our rotation."

"You've saved our season," Yankees general manager Brian Cashman told him.

Schlittler's demeanor was as impressive as his performance. He credits his father, John, a police chief in their home state of Massachusetts, with teaching him to stay cool, calm and collected on the mound.

"That's a phrase I've always thought of when I'm out there, but I'm trying to think as little as possible," Schlittler says. "To have that silent confidence and keep that composure, especially in high-pressure moments, is something I think I do very well."

That poise would be put to the test in October. Facing the team he grew up rooting for, Schlittler was handed the ball for a do-or-die Game 3 of the 2025 American League Wild Card Series against the Boston Red Sox. That night, in front of 48,833 fans, he twirled a masterpiece: eight scoreless innings in a 4-0 Yankees victory. His 12 strikeouts in a winner-take-all game topped the previous Yankees record of 10, set by Roger Clemens in Game 7 of the 2001 World Series. And he joined Waite Hoyt, who shut out the New York Giants in Game 2 of the 1921 World Series, as the

The right-hander is always the center of attention on start days, but as Schlittler prepared for the first postseason start of his career last October, the eyes of an entire city were watching his every step. Whatever pressure he felt, the pitcher wasn't about to yield. "I was locked in," he says. "I knew exactly what I needed to go and do out there."

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only Yankees to put up at least eight zeroes in their postseason debut.

"I wasn't going to let them beat me," Schlittler said afterward in the Yankee Stadium press conference room, his shower shoes still sopping wet with celebratory suds and the team's player of the game championship belt resting at his side. "I was locked in. I knew exactly what I needed to go and do out there, especially against my hometown team."

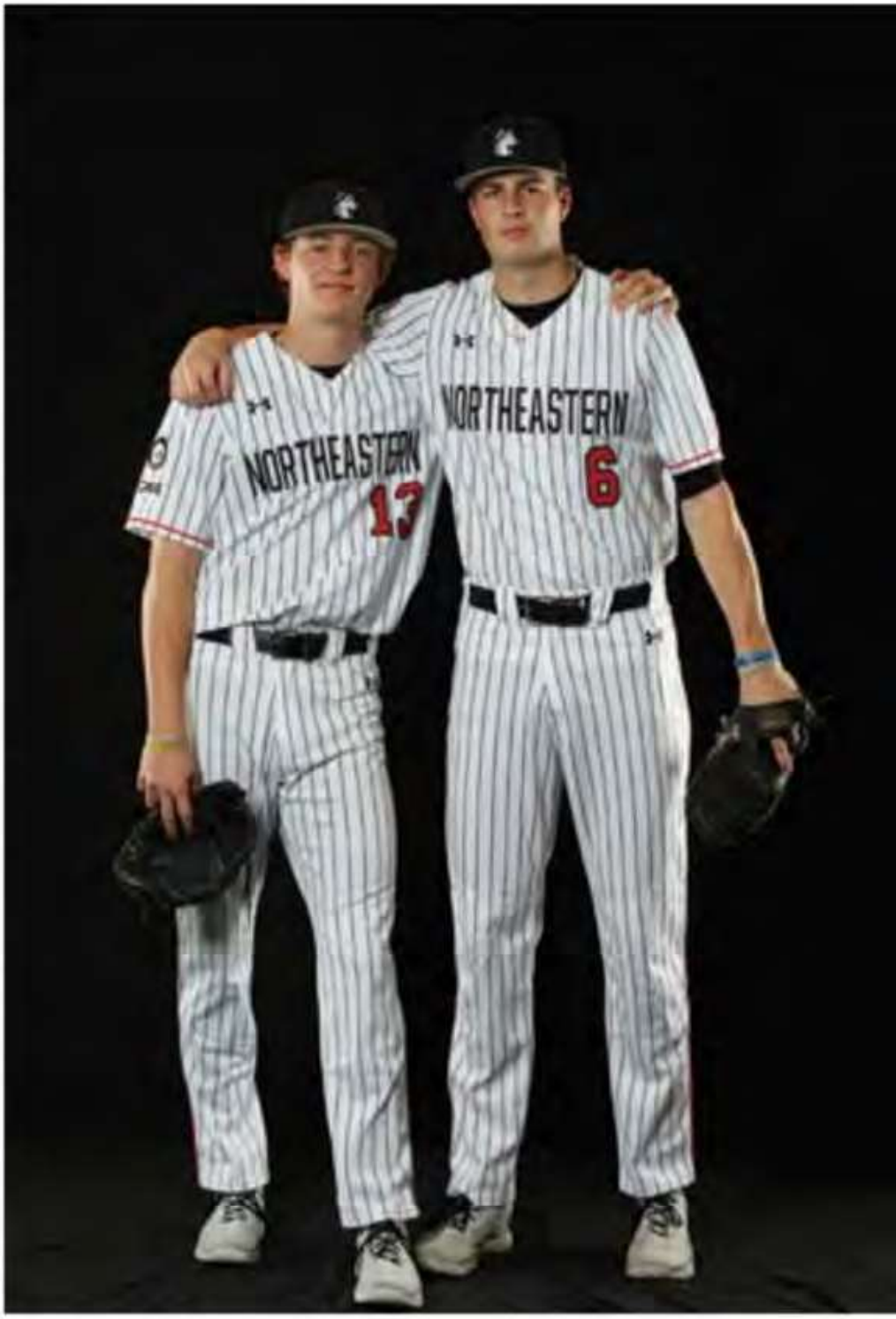
If anyone didn't know who Schlittler was before, they sure did now. From Beantown to the Big Apple, he was all anyone could talk about. "Rookie Rocks Sox" was plastered in capital letters across the front page of the next day's *New York Post*, while the back page blared, "Holy Schlitt!" His star power, virtually nonexistent at the start of the season, could light up Broadway.

When the Yankees' season ended six days later at the hands of Toronto, Schlittler headed into the winter firmly entrenched as a member of the Yankees' 2026 rotation. His profile had grown exponentially, his name and face familiar from Cape Cod to Cape May.

Having ended Boston's season, some pitchers might have thought twice about returning home to what had become enemy territory. Not Schlittler. The cold-blooded killer on the mound has a different persona away from it. Approachable and friendly, he is happy to pose for a picture or chat with nearly any fan, whatever their baseball allegiance. Just because he carved his name into Yankees history by carving up the Red Sox, the lanky right-hander from Walpole wasn't about to change anything about himself or how he goes about his business, on the field or off.

"He's a goofy dude," says Yankees minor league pitcher Thomas Balboni Jr., who played at Northeastern with Schlittler and lived with him in South Boston for part of this offseason. "His presence on the mound, you would never guess that from who he is as a person off the field. He's just a good dude."

"He can flip a switch, I'll tell you that," says Sebastian Keane, another right-hander out of Northeastern rising through the Yankees organization who also happens to be one of Schlittler's best friends. "When he's on the field, he's a fiery guy. Off the field, he likes to be in his room playing his video games. He doesn't like to do too much. He doesn't really have too many hobbies."



Keane [L] played with Schlittler at Northeastern University and is now a pitcher in the Yankees' system. For years, the fellow right-hander has witnessed the single-minded dedication that Schlittler puts into his craft, but also the way that his on- and off-field personalities differ from each other. "He can flip a switch, I'll tell you that," Keane says.

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CAM SCHLITTLER

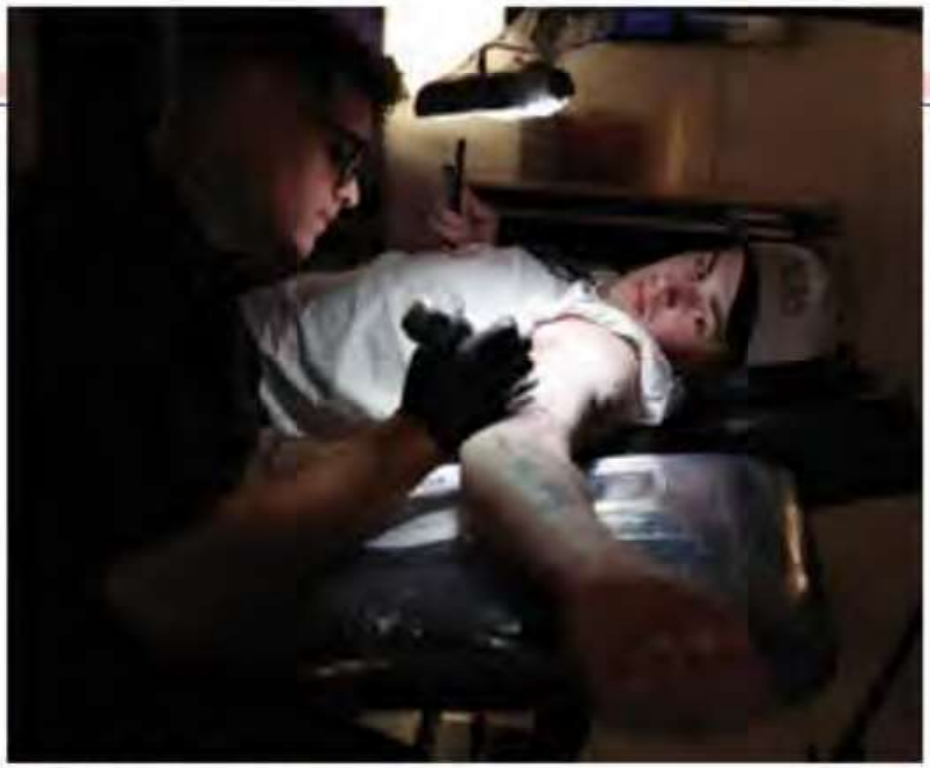
That's not to say Schlittler is antisocial or some sort of hermit. Far from it. He'll roll with his buddies anytime, whether it's going out to dinner in Boston or sitting courtside at a Knicks game. When the NHL Stadium Series came to Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Florida, he wore a microphone on his Boston Bruins jersey as he sat on the glass with rotation-mate Will Warren for a segment that appeared on the NHL's TikTok account, then spent the rest of the night in a suite with several more of their Yankees teammates.

"I'm an extrovert, I think, socially," Schlittler says. "On a day-to-day basis, I'm more introverted. That's why I think I like cats so much."

The 25-year-old is indeed the proud owner to Arya, an adorable gray cat that he took in last year. In February, when the Yankees' social media team invited Schlittler to a Tampa cafe called Cats & Caffeine that finds homes for felines, he eagerly accepted. The footage of him petting and playing with the kitties, feeding them treats and lamenting that he couldn't adopt another one provided unique content for the debut episode of "Behind the NY," which can be viewed on the Yankees' YouTube channel, and revealed a side of him that stands in stark contrast to the intimidating 6-foot-6 flamethrower who mows down major league hitters by the bushel.

"There's a lot more to me than just being a baseball player," Schlittler says. "The way I think about things is a little bit different than everyone else."

Having seen the impact that offseason dedication can have, Schlittler couldn't wait to get to work. Soon after packing up his locker at Yankee Stadium, he was back in Boston, training at Northeastern alongside Keane, Balboni and a handful of other recent Huskies now in the pros. Every day, they would arrive at the school's large indoor facility to lift, throw and work out for as long as they pleased. It was the perfect environment for them, and a good opportunity for the current Northeastern players hoping to follow in their footsteps.



Inevitably, Schlittler's dominant performance against Boston would come up.

"Kids on the Northeastern baseball team would ask him about it," says Keane, a reliever who went 7-0 at High-A Hudson Valley in 2025. "And obviously, that's a guy that you want knowledge from. He speaks about that game like, 'You know, you've just got to go out there and do it.' And when they're like, 'But it was in front of 50,000 fans!' he just looks at it as, 'That's my job.'"

Roaming the city, Schlittler would get recognized more often than in the past. And although Red Sox fans fueled his fire in the Wild Card Series by taunting him and his family on social media, they had to tip their cap to him after it was over.

"I had great experiences there this offseason," Schlittler says. "Everyone treated me very well, so I praise them for that."

Balboni recalls one time when he and Schlittler were in South Boston, and two kids behind them started whispering.

"That's him."

"Nooo."

"Dude, it's him!"

Before mustering up the courage to say hello, they confirmed their suspicion by searching "Cam Schlittler tattoos" on their phone.

"Dude, it's his tattoos. I told you!"

Even before the triple-digit heat, one of the first things anyone notices when they watch Schlittler pitch is the ink along his arms. Like many, Schlittler chooses tattoos that are personally meaningful. The date, in Roman numerals, when his paternal grandmother passed away is visible with every pitch he throws — "I feel like it's the only tattoo I'll ever have on my right arm," he says — while his left forearm is emblazoned with the date on which his maternal grandfather passed away. Neither lived to see him reach the bigs, get drafted or even go to college, but they were both instrumental in him achieving all of those dreams.

"I realize how proud they would be if they were here," he says. "It's special being able to put them on my arm and look at it every day and remember they're still with me."

The other artwork that covers Schlittler's left arm requires closer examination but reveals what he calls a "hidden identity." It is an intricate amalgam of images, symbols and words that, together, express his internal desire for balance and harmony. For someone whose on-field ferocity belies the compassionate cat-adoring nature he displays off of it, and who values time with friends and family above all else, the thematic elements on his arm are fitting.

"I've got the yin/yang, I've got some koi fish on my lower forearm," he says. "I think that really paired well … with the skills I have. It really connects the light and dark when it comes to baseball and personal life.

"It's all just a revolving circle of what I feel as a human, mentally and physically."

On an unseasonably cold and gray day in Tampa this past January, Schlittler arrived at Socrates Ink Gallery for an appointment with renowned tattoo artist Omar Cruz. A

To thrive on a big-league stage, Schlittler – like any pro ballplayer – spends an inordinate amount of time sculpting his physical shape in the weight room. But that's not the only time he spends working on his body. The pitcher has tattoos up and down his left arm, including a few that he added over the winter. The ink, deeply personal and intricate, helps paint a picture of Schlittler's mindset.

CAM SCHLITTLER

catcher as a kid while growing up in Santo Domingo next door to Amed Rosario, Cruz turned to tattooing as a way to nourish his artistic soul, and he has become a highly sought-after craftsman who works with several major leaguers. He says Schlittler is one of his favorite clients, and the two have developed a trust and a bond not entirely dissimilar from those forged by batterymates.

After months of planning and communication, Schlittler was ready to add to his growing sleeve with some new ink on the upper part of his left arm. Within the detailed fine-line work that Cruz would create was a depiction of two human figures seemingly attempting to run in opposite directions but tethered to each other by a web of lines above the words "Me vs. Me."

"I get to express myself from a mental standpoint through the artwork," Schlittler says. "There's a lot of detail to it, but the 'Me vs. Me' thing is, I feel like when it comes to your career, it's really you just against yourself. It's not you against other players, teams, organizations, whatever it is. At the end of the day, you've got to put the work in, and that's something I'm very passionate about."

Cruz put in his earbuds, threw on his polarized sunglasses and got to work himself. The session would last nearly three hours, and the artist was locked in from the start. Schlittler sat in the chair unflinching, occasionally glancing at his phone. After 10 minutes, Cruz spoke for the first time since firing up the tattoo gun.

"So," he said, "tell me about that game against Boston ..."

While Schlittler's remarkable postseason debut was the most lasting image from his rookie season, it wasn't his final outing. He was the starting pitcher in Game 4 of the ALDS against Toronto, with the Yankees' season on the line once again. Although Schlittler proved that his performance against the Red Sox was no fluke, it was that loss, more than the Boston triumph, that motivated him throughout the winter.

Facing a Blue Jays offense that had battered the Yankees for 29 runs over the first

three games, he gave up hits to three of the first four batters he faced — including an RBI single to Vladimir Guerrero Jr. on an 0-2 count. But then he settled in, retiring 11 of the next 12. In the top of the third, he dispatched the Jays' 1-2-3 hitters on eight pitches. He allowed a sacrifice fly in the fifth that made it 2-1, but by then he had already outlasted any of the Yanks' starters in the first three games of the series. It wasn't until the seventh inning, when an error and a two-run single off Devin Williams saddled Schlittler with two unearned runs (and, eventually, the loss in a 5-2 defeat) that his night — and the Yankees' season — was over.

It had been a remarkable ride, from facing the Hartford Yard Goats in April to staring down two AL East foes at Yankee Stadium in October. He proved that he could handle any major league lineup, and in vanquishing the Red Sox, he elevated himself to MLB celebrity status. To those who have known him longest, though, he's still the same guy who is just as happy sitting in his room petting Arya and playing *ARC Raiders* on Xbox as he is appearing on the Jumbotron at Madison Square Garden sitting next to Aaron Judge. All that matters to him is getting better and helping the Yankees win games.

"I think he's always been a big leaguer on the mound, mentally," says Balboni. "As a freshman at Northeastern all the way up until now, he just knows what he's doing out there. He's one of the smartest kids I know when it comes to baseball. When we talk about baseball, he knows everything about the batter. And then being with the Yankees the past few years, he's been able to figure out his mechanics and get to a consistent spot where he's able to produce plus numbers with his velo and offspeed stuff. But mentally, he's been a big leaguer for quite a while."

"He obviously had a crazy season, and I think there's no reason for him to not be able to do that again," says Keane. "He has the stuff to be a dominant starting pitcher. He's already got three months in the bigs, so this year he can relax a little bit knowing he has that role. If he just continues working on his stuff and he stays healthy, he's going to have a long, long career."

Just as the search for meaningful connections and interactions with people goes on, Schlittler continues to seek ways to improve in every aspect of his profession, from training to nutrition to adding to his bank of knowledge. Last season didn't end the way he wanted it to, and so he will keep doing everything in his power to write a different ending in 2026.

"I expect greatness out of myself," he says. "I was just trying to get my feet wet when I got called up last year, and I was still working on things. I'm still working on things. ... And for the next X number of years of my career, I want to continue to keep adding stuff and getting better and working on what needs to get worked on."

However far that mentality takes him, his off-field persona will never change.

"When I get away from baseball, the biggest thing for me is being around friends and the people that support me," Schlittler says. "I feel like the compassion I have for the people I care about is what makes me the player I am today."

The postseason heroics of 2025 will likely remain a part of Schlittler's biography — and the Yankees' record books — for years to come, but the Massachusetts native has bigger goals. "I expect greatness out of myself," he says, and as he embarks on his first full year as a major leaguer, he has given fans every reason to believe that he can live up to that confidence.

New York Yankees

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- *Yankees' All-Time Player Roster Since 1903*
- *This Day in Yankees History*
- *Yankee Stadium Facts and Figures*
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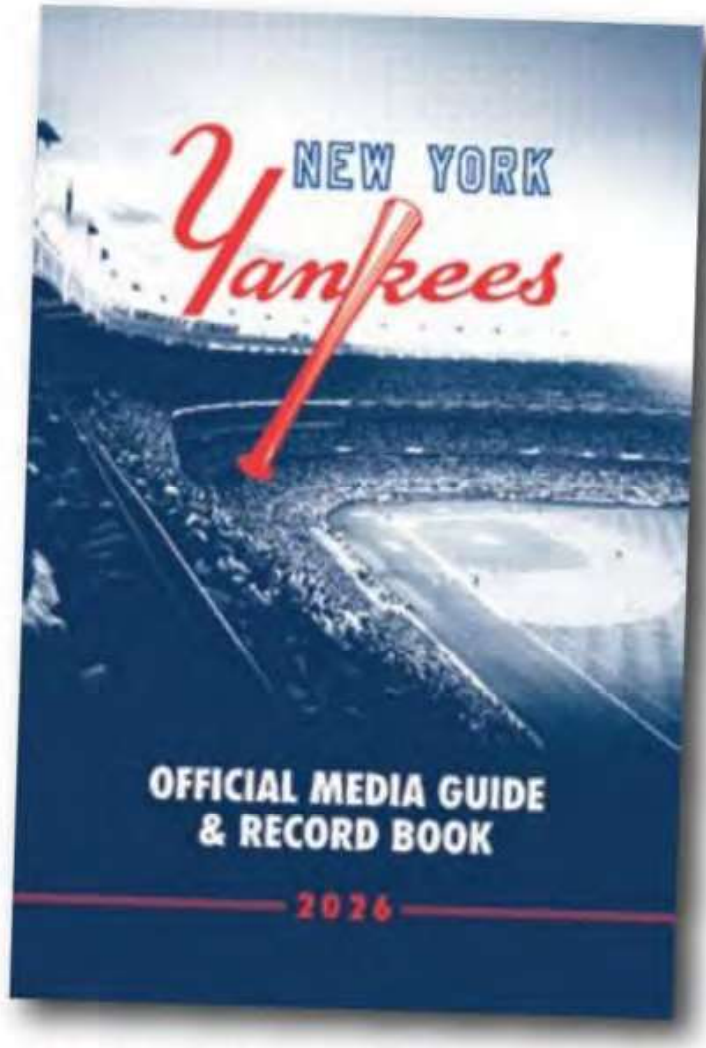

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BOUND FOR GLORY

A close-knit cast of familiar faces sets its sights on the prize that eluded them in '25

BY NATHAN MACIBORSKI

Sometimes in sports, teams need a fresh start, a new voice, anything to change the direction in which they are headed. The 2026 New York Yankees are not one of those teams — and for good reason.

Last year's squad fell short of its goal of winning a World Series, succumbing to the eventual American League–champion Blue Jays in the ALDS. It was a disappointing end to what had been a promising campaign: Led by MVP Aaron Judge, the Yankees rebounded from a summer lull to finish with 94 wins, tied for the most in the AL. They dispatched Boston in a memorable Wild Card Series but then ran into a rested Toronto squad whose bats caught fire at just the right time.

"At the end of last year, in so many ways, it's as good as I felt about our team heading into the postseason in the years that I've been here," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said in February. "It didn't go our way. That doesn't mean it's not going to go our way the next time."

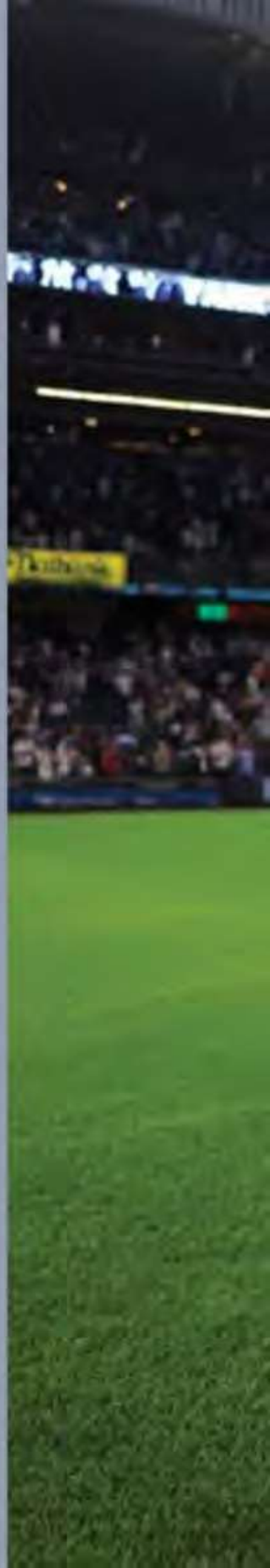
The front office seemingly agreed, re-signing several of the hitters who helped the Yankees lead the majors in runs scored a year ago while anticipating the "addition" of Gerrit Cole after the six-time All-Star missed the entire 2025 season following Tommy John surgery. The result is an Opening Day roster that looks an awful lot like last year's team — which is just fine by the players themselves.

"I actually feel really good with that," said Cody Bellinger, who is back in pinstripes after testing the free agency waters. "I'm excited to run it back with those guys, and I'm fully confident in the group."

In terms of clubhouse chemistry, there's something to be said for continuity and the comfort of familiar faces. Having been through the grind of a full season together, this team won't require any getting-to-know-you phase. These guys have experienced postseason heartbreak, but also enough success to feel good about going deeper into October this time around.

"Baseball is a funny game where, on any given day, someone can beat you, and we didn't play the best baseball when we needed to," said Max Fried, who led the majors with 19 wins in 2025. "We're motivated, and we want that opportunity again."

While this year's squad might not be new, per se, plenty of intrigue lies ahead. From the introduction of a technologically advanced challenge system to a new number being hung in Monument Park, here is what the Yankees and their fans can look forward to in 2026 as the chase for title No. 28 commences …



99
12
35

MARCH/APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
○ HOME ● AWAY			25 SF	26	27 SF	28 SF
29	30 SEA	31 SEA	1 SEA	2	3 MIA	4 MIA
5 MIA	6	7 ATH	8 ATH	9 ATH	10 TB	11 TB
12 TB	13 LAA	14 LAA	15 LAA	16 LAA	17 KC	18 KC
19 KC	20	21 BOS	22 BOS	23 BOS	24 HOU	25 HOU
26 HOU	27 TEX	28 TEX	29 TEX	30		

All games are p.m., Eastern time.

Game times listed are subject to change and determination by, among others, Major League Baseball and its television partners.

**Listings noted with a red border and asterisk (*) have game times subject to determination by, among others, MLB and its television partners. Any future start-time changes to these games will also be accompanied by a change in the television partner.*

JUDGE

CHISHOLM

After wrapping up their exhibition slate with two games against the Cubs in Arizona — the Yankees' first spring training trip to the Grand Canyon State since a one-year site swap with the New York Giants in 1951 — the Bombers will stay out west to start the season against ... the Giants. A March 25 Opening Night game at Oracle Park will be a sort of homecoming for reigning AL MVP **Aaron Judge**, who grew up two hours east in Linden, California, and attended games there with his family. The Yankees' captain put on a show in his first appearance in San Francisco, going 6-for-10 with three homers in three games back in 2024.

Like he did after every one of his 368 career dingers entering the 2026 season, Judge tapped his helmet upon crossing home plate — a way of acknowledging his family that goes back to his minor league days. Expect an additional kind of helmet tap in 2026 with the advent of baseball's automated ball-strike (ABS) challenge system. Utilizing the same Hawk-Eye technology that has been employed for years in tennis, when batters such as Judge — who, according to Statcast, had the eighth-most calls go against him in 2025 — feel that an ump has missed a ball or strike, they can now signal for a video review by tapping their helmet. Pitchers and catchers can also challenge if they feel they've been wronged, but they better be right: Teams get just two per game (which they keep if the challenged call is overturned).

After San Francisco, the Yankees travel further up the Pacific Coast and visit the AL West–champion Seattle Mariners before flying cross-country for the April 3 home opener against Miami. Two former Marlins feature prominently in the '26 Yankees' plans: Left-hander **Ryan Weathers**, who arrived via trade in January, is set to begin the season in the starting rotation, while second baseman **Jazz Chisholm Jr.** looks to build upon a fantastic 2025 campaign. After becoming just the third Yankee to post a 30/30 season, the Bahamas native has raised the bar for '26, proclaiming his intent to join Shohei Ohtani as the second member of MLB's 50/50 club.

With shortstop **Anthony Volpe** starting the year on the injured list due to offseason shoulder surgery, **José Caballero** — who led the majors with 49 stolen bases in 2025 — figures to be Chisholm's main double-play partner at least through April. **Oswaldo Cabrera**, himself working his way back from injury, and **Amed Rosario** are expected to provide further depth around the infield.

The home opener kicks off a stretch of 13 out of 16 games at Yankee Stadium, the only road contests being the Yanks' first games at Tropicana Field since July 2024, as the Rays return to their repaired dome this season after spending 2025 at George M. Steinbrenner Field.

Chisholm looks to build upon a fantastic 2025 campaign. After becoming just the third Yankee to post a 30/30 season, the Bahamas native has raised the bar for '26, proclaiming his intent to join Shohei Ohtani as the second member of MLB's 50/50 club.

No one needs to be reminded how competitive the AL East is. Three teams made the postseason in 2025, and all five have made the playoffs within the last three years. Every division game is important, and during a very busy May that features just two scheduled off-days, the Yankees will have 14 opportunities to face off against AL East foes, including what should be an electric four-game set between the last two AL champions May 18–21.

That series against Toronto comes on the heels of a nine-game road trip that ends in Queens. While the Yankees got most of their band back together for 2026, the Mets took the opposite approach after narrowly missing the playoffs in 2025, signing two former Yankees relievers — Devin Williams and Luke Weaver — and waving goodbye to Pete Alonso, whose Orioles will face the Yanks seven times in May. By then, the Yankees should have left-hander **Carlos Rodón** back in the rotation following October surgery to clean up his elbow. Seeing No. 55 on the hill will be a welcome sight, as the three-time All-Star continues to evolve into one of baseball's toughest pitchers. While still possessing the ability to rack up strikeouts (including a team-high 203 in 2025), Rodón saw his ground-ball percentage (44%) take a massive leap (from 34.6% in '24) as he tossed a career-high 195⅓ innings last season.

All those worm burners require a deft hand at the hot corner, and Rodón knows he can rely on one of the game's finest in Yankees third baseman **Ryan McMahon**. The 31-year-old has been a Gold Glove Award finalist each of the last five years and is one of just two third basemen (along with Ke'Bryan Hayes) to record double-digit defensive runs saved every year since 2021, according to The Fielding Bible. If 2026 is to be the year in which he finally lays claim to the coveted hardware, McMahon will have to unseat 2026 World Baseball Classic MVP Maikel Garcia, whose Royals host the Yankees for three games at the end of May, beginning with a nationally televised Memorial Day matinee. McMahon and the rest of the Yanks' hitters will be pleased to discover that the Kauffman Stadium fences have been moved in 10 feet, and there's potentially good news for the outfielders as well: The walls are also 18 inches shorter.

McMAHON

RODÓN

McMahon has been a Gold Glove Award finalist each of the last five years and is one of just two third basemen to record double-digit defensive runs saved every year since 2021, according to The Fielding Bible.

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 CLE	3 CLE	4 CLE	5 BOS	6 BOS
7 BOS	8 CLE	9 CLE	10 CLE	11	12 TOR	13 TOR
14 TOR	15	16 CWS	17 CWS	18 CWS	19 CIN	20 CIN
21 CIN	22 DET	23 DET	24 DET	25 BOS	26 BOS	27 BOS
28 BOS	29 DET	30 DET				

○ HOME ● AWAY

WELLS

After proving to be one of the hardest-hitting sluggers in the majors – his 93.3 mph average exit velocity put him in the 95th percentile in 2025, while his 56.1% hard-hit percentage was in the 97th percentile, according to Statcast – Rice looks primed for a breakout season in '26.

After 36 seasons on ESPN, *Sunday Night Baseball* moves to NBC this year, which includes a June 28 broadcast from Fenway Park — one of seven Yankees–Red Sox showdowns throughout the month. Baseball's best rivalry added another unforgettable chapter during the 2025 postseason, when two Massachusetts natives were instrumental in helping the Yanks take down Boston in the best-of-three AL Wild Card Series.

Needing to win two straight after dropping the series opener, Yankees skipper Aaron Boone gave **Ben Rice** the opportunity to get his first taste of postseason action. The left-handed-hitting first baseman rewarded his manager by blasting a two-run homer on the first pitch he saw, a big first-inning blow in an eventual 4-3 victory. Rice, who grew up in Cohasset rooting for the Yankees, has made a habit of tormenting the Red Sox, authoring a three-homer game against them as a rookie in 2024. After proving to be one of the hardest-hitting sluggers in the majors — his 93.3 mph average exit velocity put him in the 95th percentile in 2025, while his 56.1% hard-hit percentage was in the 97th percentile, according to Statcast — the 27-year-old looks primed for a breakout season in '26.

Yankees fans are also eager to see what **Cam Schlittler** has in store this year after the Walpole product dominated his hometown team with a historic Game 3 performance. With the season on the line, the rookie right-hander shoved eight scoreless innings of five-hit ball, striking out 12 Red Sox while walking none. The 6-foot-6 flamethrower then availed himself well against a hot-hitting Toronto club in the ALDS, pitching into the seventh inning and being charged with just two earned runs in a 5-2 season-ending loss. With those experiences under his belt, Schlittler heads into 2026 with the knowledge that no moment is too big for him.

While Rice caught five of Schlittler's 14 regular-season starts last year, he projects to spend nearly all of his time in the field this season at first base, where he can continue to learn the position from four-time Gold Glover **Paul Goldschmidt**, who returns to the Yanks on a one-year deal. Handling the bulk of the catching duties for a third straight season will be **Austin Wells**, who has developed into a premier big-league backstop. The 2020 first-round draft pick looks to top the 20-homer mark for a second year in a row while adapting his defensive game as one of baseball's top framers to the new ABS system. Having **J.C. Escarra** as a backup and sounding board will help.

RICE

The stars and stripes will be waving proudly in July, and the Yankees will spend much of the month in the 13 original colonies. After celebrating America's semiquincentennial at Yankee Stadium with Fireworks Night on July 3 followed by a July 4 Saturday matinee against the Twins, they hit the road to close out the first half, including three games in the nation's capital.

The All-Star Game then takes place in the birthplace of American independence, with Philadelphia hosting its fourth Midsummer Classic. After each of the previous three games there (in 1952, 1976 and 1996), the Yankees went on to appear in the World Series, winning twice.

GRISHAM

Seven-time All-Star Aaron Judge — the AL's leading vote-getter in 2024 and '25 — may be a lock for the Classic, but fellow Yankees outfielder **Trent Grisham** could also be on track to earn what would be his first invitation. The 29-year-old is coming off a season in which he finished second on the team to Judge in home runs (34), including three of the Yankees' AL–best nine grand slams. Grisham's three jackpots — which tied for the major league lead and were the most by a Yankee since Nick Swisher hit three in 2012 — all came on the road, including one at Chicago's Rate Field, where the Yankees will play four games July 27–30. The outfield group stayed remarkably healthy in 2025, but should reinforcements be needed at any point this year, talented youngsters **Jasson Domínguez** and **Spencer Jones** impressed during spring training, as did veteran **Randal Grichuk**.

While Grisham's six leadoff homers (fifth most in MLB) set the tone for several of the Yankees' 94 wins in 2025, closer **David Bednar** added the finishing touches. Acquired from Pittsburgh at the 2025 trade deadline, the Pennsylvania native proved that his stuff plays just as well in the American League, going 4-0 with a 2.19 ERA and 10 saves in 22 appearances. Now in his first full season in pinstripes, the 31-year-old right-hander isn't the only Yankees reliever who could potentially earn an invite to join the Junior Circuit in Philly on July 14. Bednar headlines a well-rounded relief corps that also features former Giants closer **Camilo Doval**, splitter savant **Fernando Cruz** and sidearming lefty **Tim Hill.** Veteran hurlers **Paul Blackburn** and **Ryan Yarbrough** can be deployed as long relievers or spot starters, while **Jake Bird, Kervin Castro, Brent Headrick** and **Cade Winquest** are among those in the mix for bullpen roles.

BEDNAR

Acquired from Pittsburgh at the 2025 trade deadline, Bednar proved that his stuff plays just as well in the American League, going 4-0 with a 2.19 ERA and 10 saves in 22 appearances.

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
● HOME ● AWAY						1 CHC
2 CHC	3 STL	4 STL	5 STL	6	7 ATL	8 ATL
9 ATL	10	11 SEA	12 SEA	13 SEA	14 TOR	15 TOR
16 TOR	17	18 BAL	19 BAL	20 BAL	21 TOR	22 TOR
23 TOR	24	25 HOU	26 HOU	27 HOU	28 BOS	29 BOS
30 BOS	31 LAA					

FRIED

STANTON

Summertime in New York City is amazing, and with 18 home dates on the Yankees' schedule in August, tourists and locals alike will have ample opportunity to catch the Bronx Bombers at Yankee Stadium. To kick off the month, after wrapping up a season-long 10-game road trip at Wrigley Field in Chicago, the Yankees fly home for a three-game set with St. Louis beginning Aug. 3 — with the trade deadline coming about an hour before first pitch — followed by a weekend series against the Braves that includes the 78th Old-Timers' Day on Aug. 8.

Giancarlo Stanton's elbows might have been feeling like they belonged to an old-timer at the start of spring training as the epicondylitis that cost him the first half of 2025 continued to flare up. But as the 16-year veteran proved last summer, if he is standing in the batter's box, he's still as dangerous as ever. The majors' active leader in home runs posted a 1.253 OPS last August, driving in 23 runs in 23 games. For his career, Big G has a .957 OPS with 95 homers and 229 RBI in 311 games in August — his hottest month, by far.

August was also kind to rookie starter **Will Warren** in 2025. One of the more underappreciated contributors to last year's team, Warren posted a 2.84 ERA in five starts that month, en route to tying for the American League lead with 33 games started. His lone relief appearance of 2025 came during Game 2 of the ALDS, which did not go as planned: a Vladimir Guerrero Jr. grand slam was one of four longballs Warren allowed in a 13-7 Yankees loss.

Whatever his role is come August, he'll have a shot at redemption as the Yankees play two weekend series against the Blue Jays — in Toronto Aug. 14–16 and in the Bronx Aug. 21–23 — that could very well have postseason implications. In 2025, the Yankees finished with the same 94-68 record as the Jays, who won the division based on their 8-5 regular-season head-to-head record against the Yanks, forcing New York to play Boston in the Wild Card Series.

Another Yankee looking forward to facing Toronto again when the stakes are raised is **Max Fried**. The left-hander's terrific '25 campaign ended with that disastrous Game 2 start at Rogers Centre that "left a bad taste in my mouth and motivated me through the offseason," he said. The 32-year-old Fried would also welcome the chance to start in Baltimore (Aug. 18–20), where last year he matched his career high with 13 strikeouts.

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SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 LAA	2 LAA	3	4 SD	5 SD
6 SD	7	8 COL	9 COL	10 COL	11 NYM	12 NYM
13 NYM	14 MIN	15 MIN	16 MIN	17	18 AZ	19 AZ
20 AZ	21	22 TB	23 TB	24 TB	25 BAL	26 BAL
27 BAL	28	29	30			

○ HOME ● AWAY

BELLINGER

"I really do love the group that we had. We all played for each other, and on top of that, we have some important pieces coming back." –Bellinger

In 2025, the Yankees knocked out their West Coast trips early, playing their final game in the Pacific time zone on June 1. This season will be a bit more challenging in that regard, with games in California to start the final month followed by a mid-September jaunt to Minnesota and Arizona that will span more than 5,000 miles roundtrip.

In between, the Yankees will host the Mets for three games, the first of which falls on the 25th anniversary of 9/11. Their previous Patriot Day matchup — at Citi Field in 2021 on the 20th anniversary of the attacks — was an emotional game, with the crosstown rivals standing alongside and embracing one another during a pregame ceremony, and Aaron Judge's two-run, eighth-inning homer providing the knockout blow in a wild, 8-7 Yankees victory.

This September will bring its own share of intense games, as the Yankees fully expect to be jockeying for an eighth postseason berth in nine years under manager Aaron Boone. Their stated goal, of course, is to win the World Series for the first time since 2009, when left-hander CC Sabathia — the 2025 Hall of Fame inductee whose No. 52 will be retired during a Sept. 26 pregame ceremony — helped lead the team up the Canyon of Heroes. Two key reasons for the Yanks' optimism heading into '26 are the returns of one player who hit free agency last offseason and another who missed all of 2025.

Cody Bellinger had his choice of suitors after a fantastic first season in pinstripes, but when it came down to it, neither he nor the Yankees wanted to part ways after 2025. The former MVP outfielder and first baseman inked a new deal in January for a chance to finish the job and bring a championship parade back to New York. "I really do love the group that we had," he said. "We all played for each other, and on top of that, we have some important pieces coming back."

Bellinger was referring to ace right-hander **Gerrit Cole**, who, after pitching brilliantly in the 2024 World Series against the Dodgers, underwent Tommy John surgery in March 2025. The 2023 AL Cy Young Award winner's absence was felt all season, but especially down the stretch and into the 2025 postseason. A healthy Cole in 2026 could mean all the difference. With him back, "We're going to have a lot of really good, quality arms to be able to round out the staff," said Fried. "We want to be able to clean up a lot of the mistakes that we made last year and try to learn from it, be able to get better, and hopefully get to where we want to go, which is to a World Series and win one."

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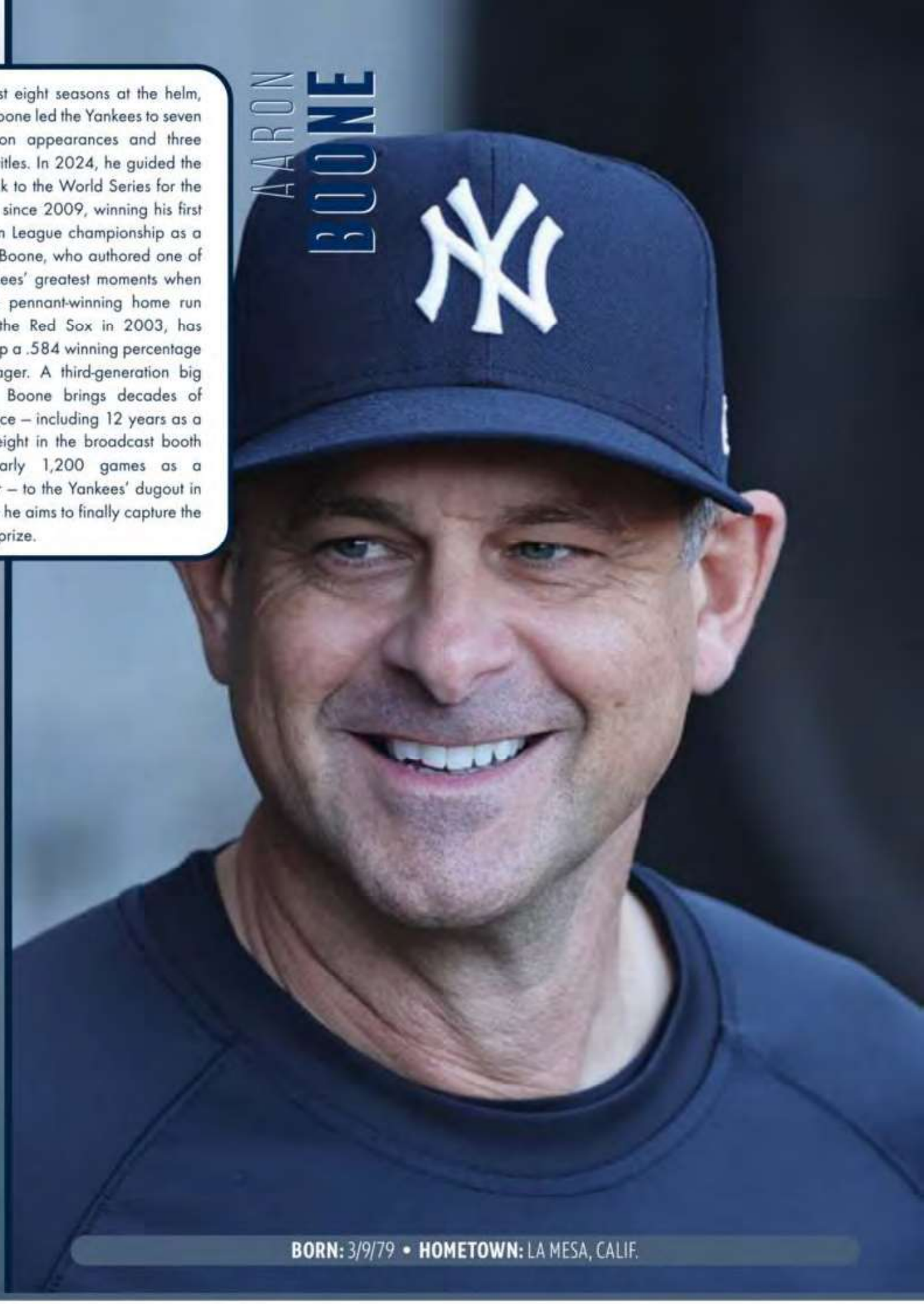
MANAGER & COACHES

AARON BOONE



In his first eight seasons at the helm, Aaron Boone led the Yankees to seven postseason appearances and three division titles. In 2024, he guided the club back to the World Series for the first time since 2009, winning his first American League championship as a skipper. Boone, who authored one of the Yankees' greatest moments when he hit a pennant-winning home run against the Red Sox in 2003, has racked up a .584 winning percentage as manager. A third-generation big leaguer, Boone brings decades of experience – including 12 years as a player, eight in the broadcast booth and nearly 1,200 games as a manager – to the Yankees' dugout in 2026 as he aims to finally capture the ultimate prize.

BORN: 3/9/79 • **HOMETOWN:** LA MESA, CALIF.

17 MANAGER

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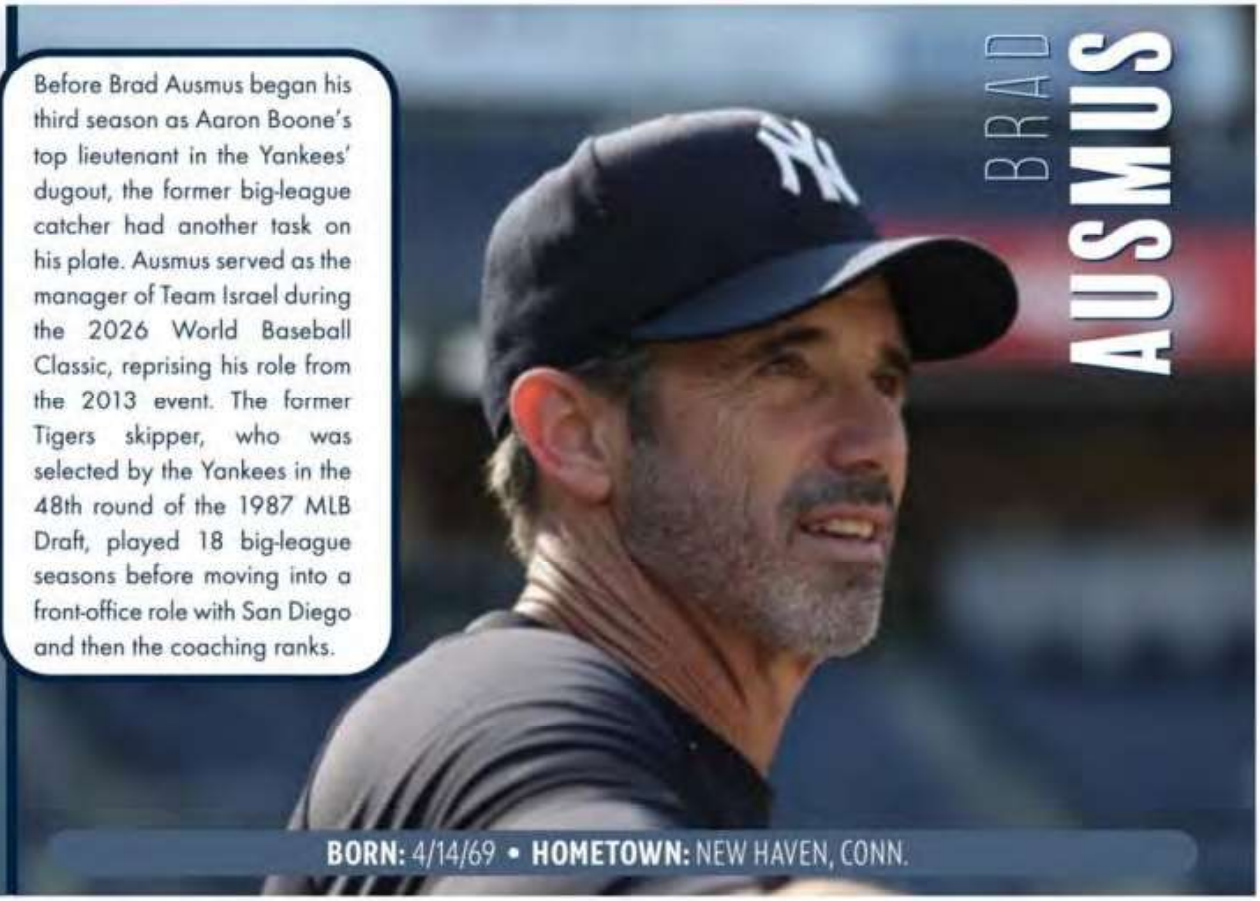
65 BENCH COACH

BRAD AUSMUS

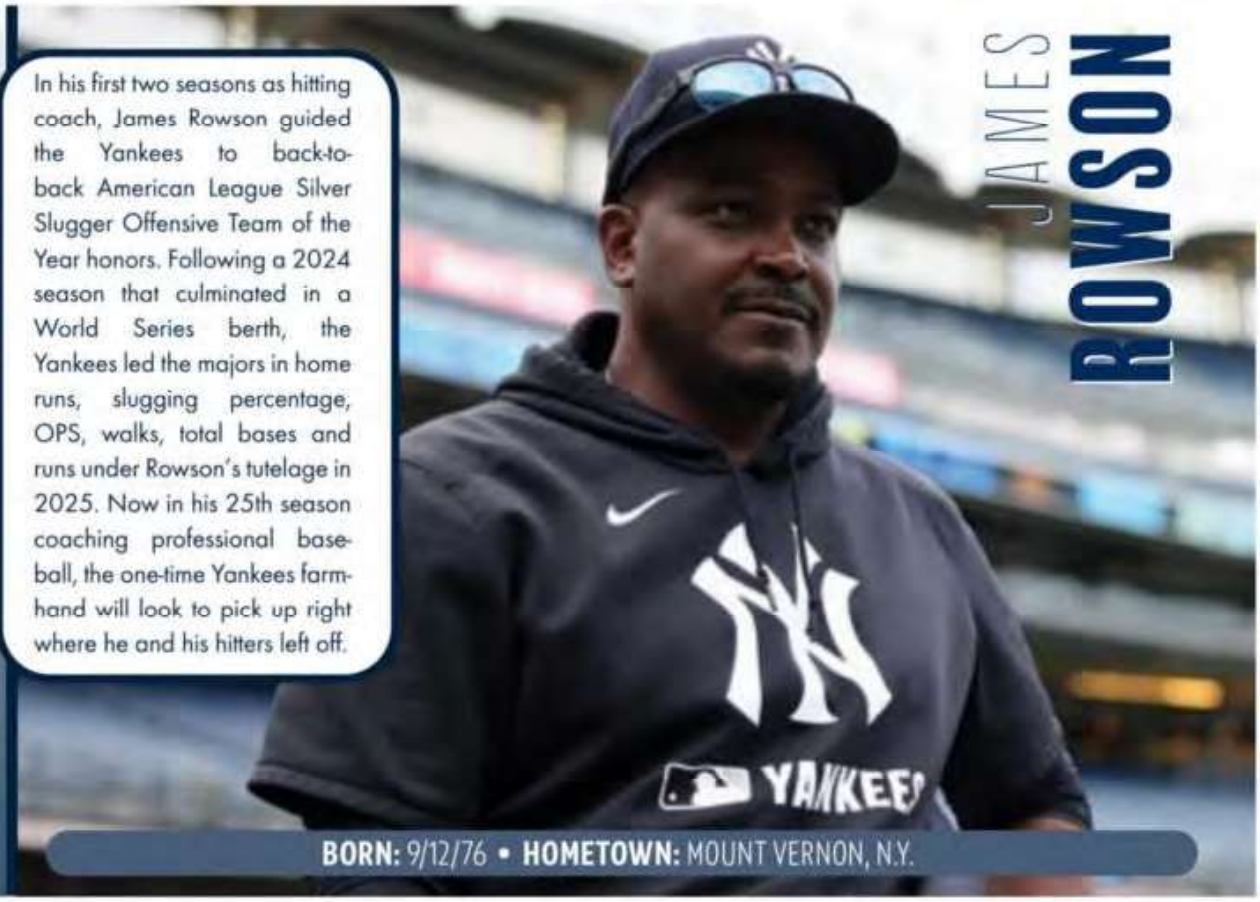


Before Brad Ausmus began his third season as Aaron Boone's top lieutenant in the Yankees' dugout, the former big-league catcher had another task on his plate. Ausmus served as the manager of Team Israel during the 2026 World Baseball Classic, reprising his role from the 2013 event. The former Tigers skipper, who was selected by the Yankees in the 48th round of the 1987 MLB Draft, played 18 big-league seasons before moving into a front-office role with San Diego and then the coaching ranks.

BORN: 4/14/69 • **HOMETOWN:** NEW HAVEN, CONN.

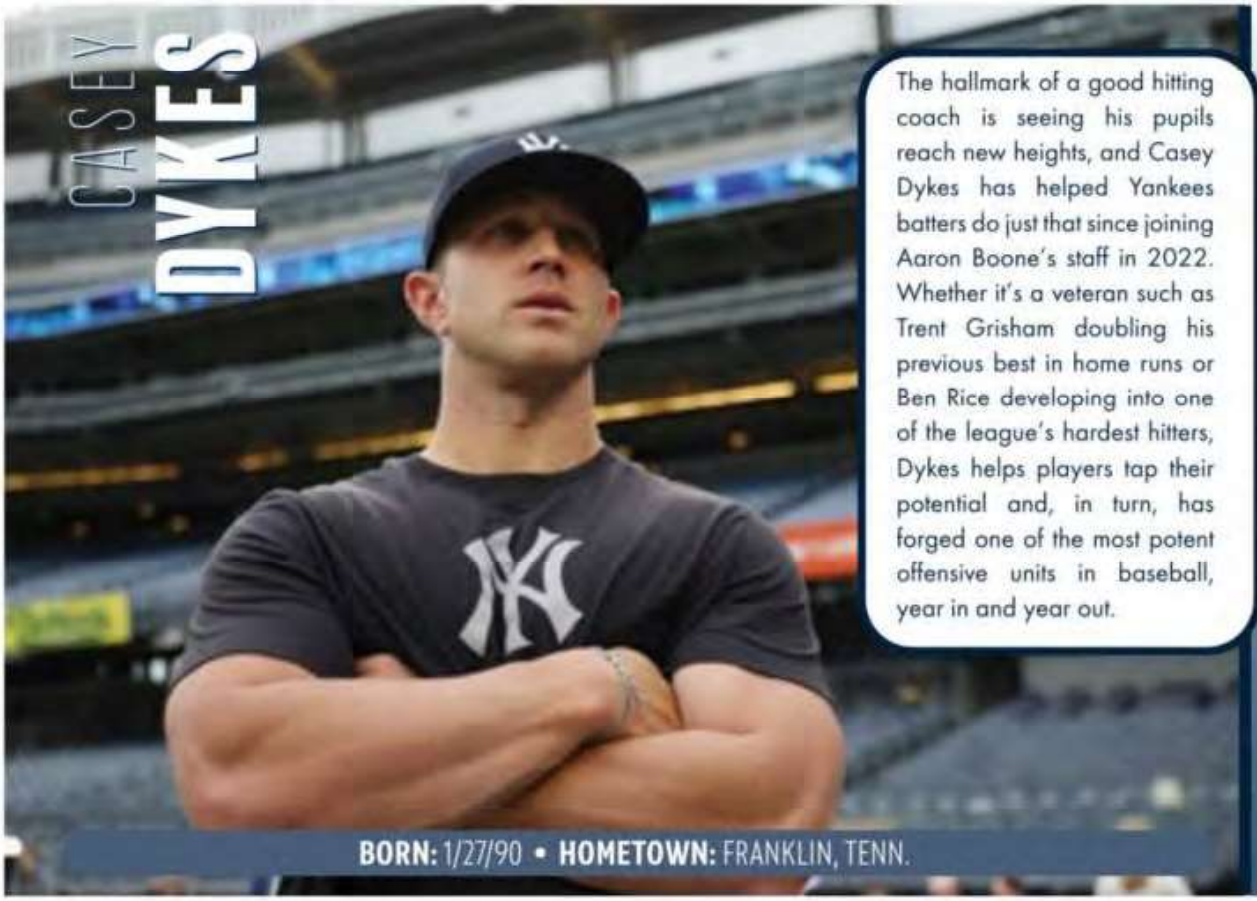
82 HITTING COACH

JAMES ROWSON



In his first two seasons as hitting coach, James Rowson guided the Yankees to back-to-back American League Silver Slugger Offensive Team of the Year honors. Following a 2024 season that culminated in a World Series berth, the Yankees led the majors in home runs, slugging percentage, OPS, walks, total bases and runs under Rowson's tutelage in 2025. Now in his 25th season coaching professional baseball, the one-time Yankees farmhand will look to pick up right where he and his hitters left off.

BORN: 9/12/76 • **HOMETOWN:** MOUNT VERNON, N.Y.



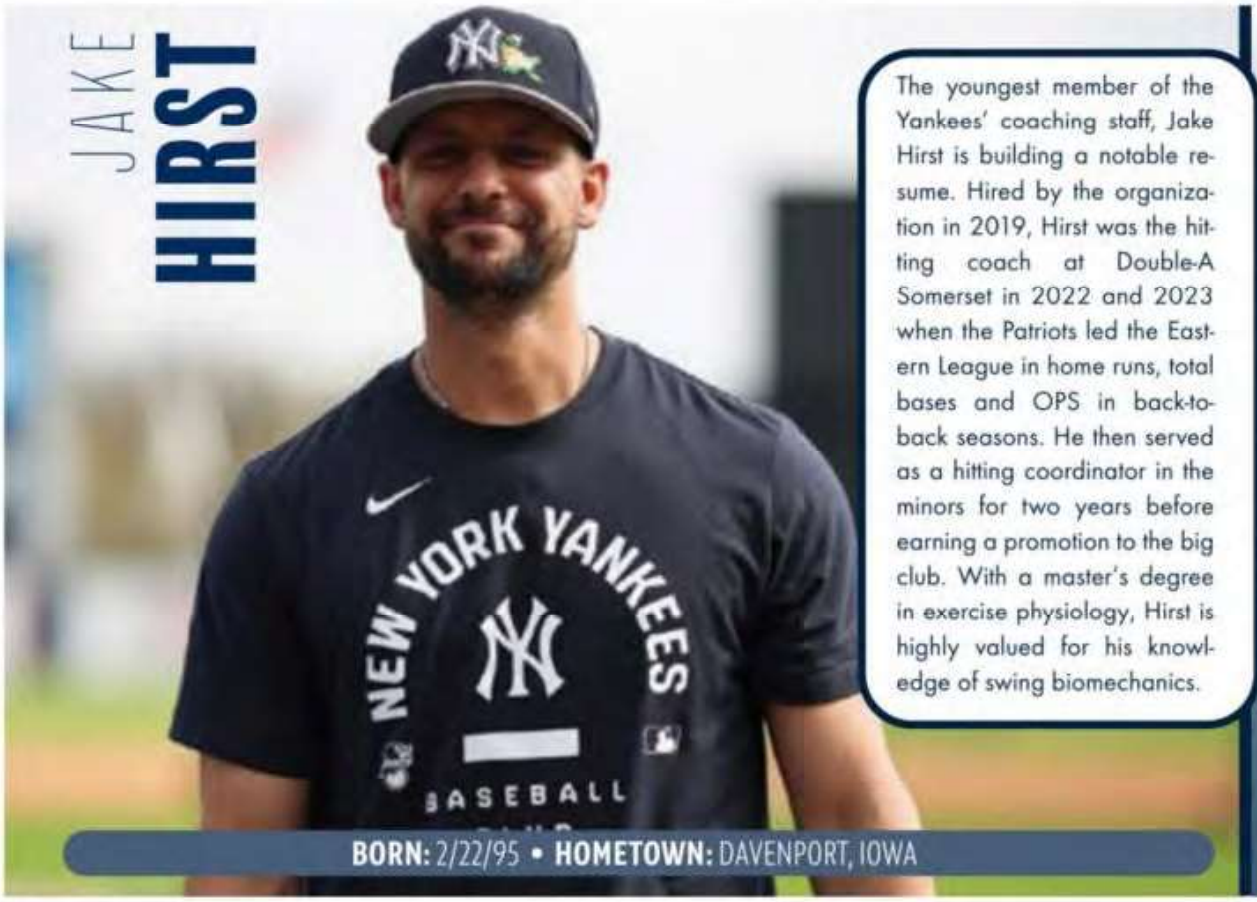
CASEY DYKES

The hallmark of a good hitting coach is seeing his pupils reach new heights, and Casey Dykes has helped Yankees batters do just that since joining Aaron Boone's staff in 2022. Whether it's a veteran such as Trent Grisham doubling his previous best in home runs or Ben Rice developing into one of the league's hardest hitters, Dykes helps players tap their potential and, in turn, has forged one of the most potent offensive units in baseball, year in and year out.

BORN: 1/27/90 • **HOMETOWN:** FRANKLIN, TENN.

ASSISTANT HITTING COACH

78



JAKE HIRST

The youngest member of the Yankees' coaching staff, Jake Hirst is building a notable resume. Hired by the organization in 2019, Hirst was the hitting coach at Double-A Somerset in 2022 and 2023 when the Patriots led the Eastern League in home runs, total bases and OPS in back-to-back seasons. He then served as a hitting coordinator in the minors for two years before earning a promotion to the big club. With a master's degree in exercise physiology, Hirst is highly valued for his knowledge of swing biomechanics.

BORN: 2/22/95 • **HOMETOWN:** DAVENPORT, IOWA

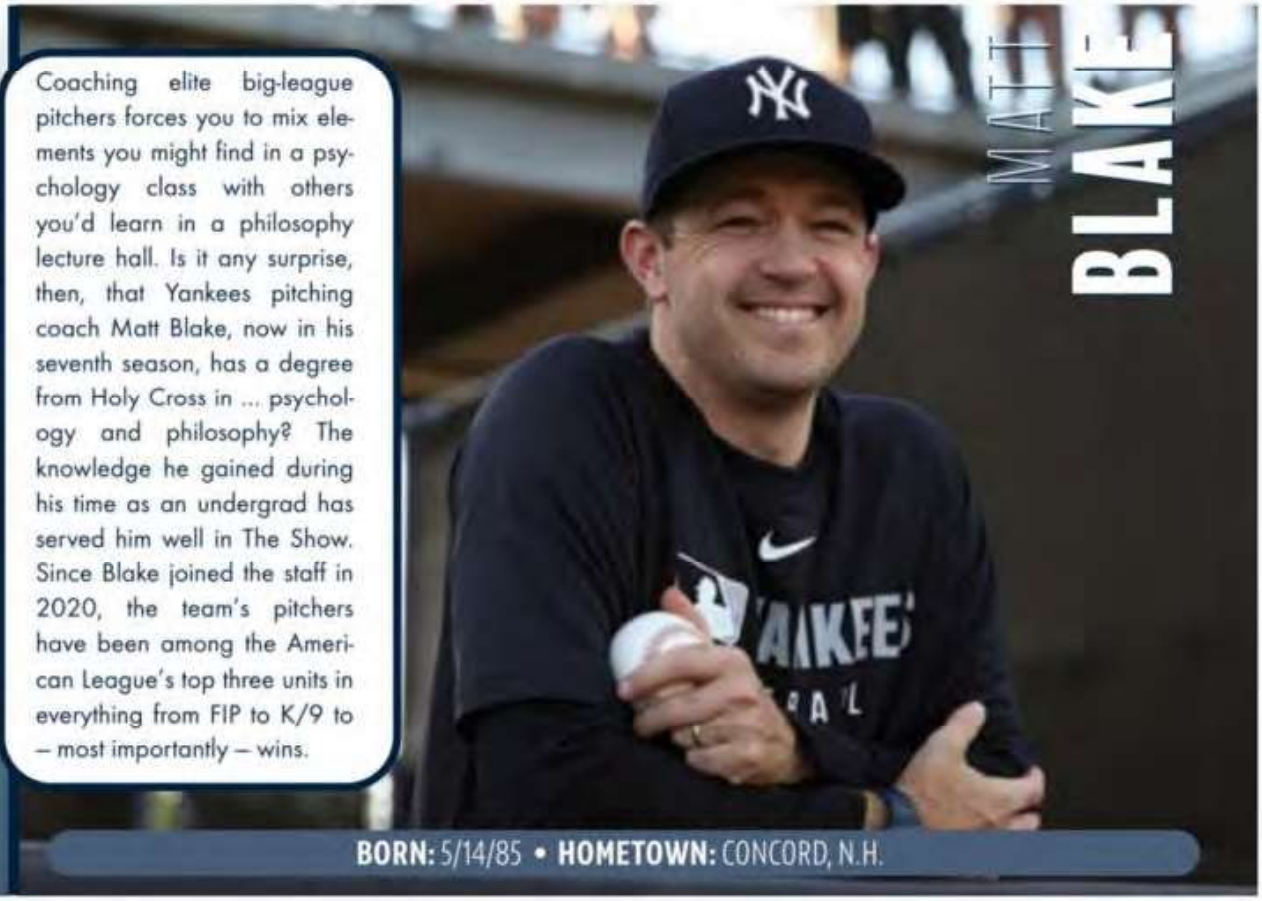
ASSISTANT HITTING COACH

84

77

PITCHING COACH

MATT BLAKE



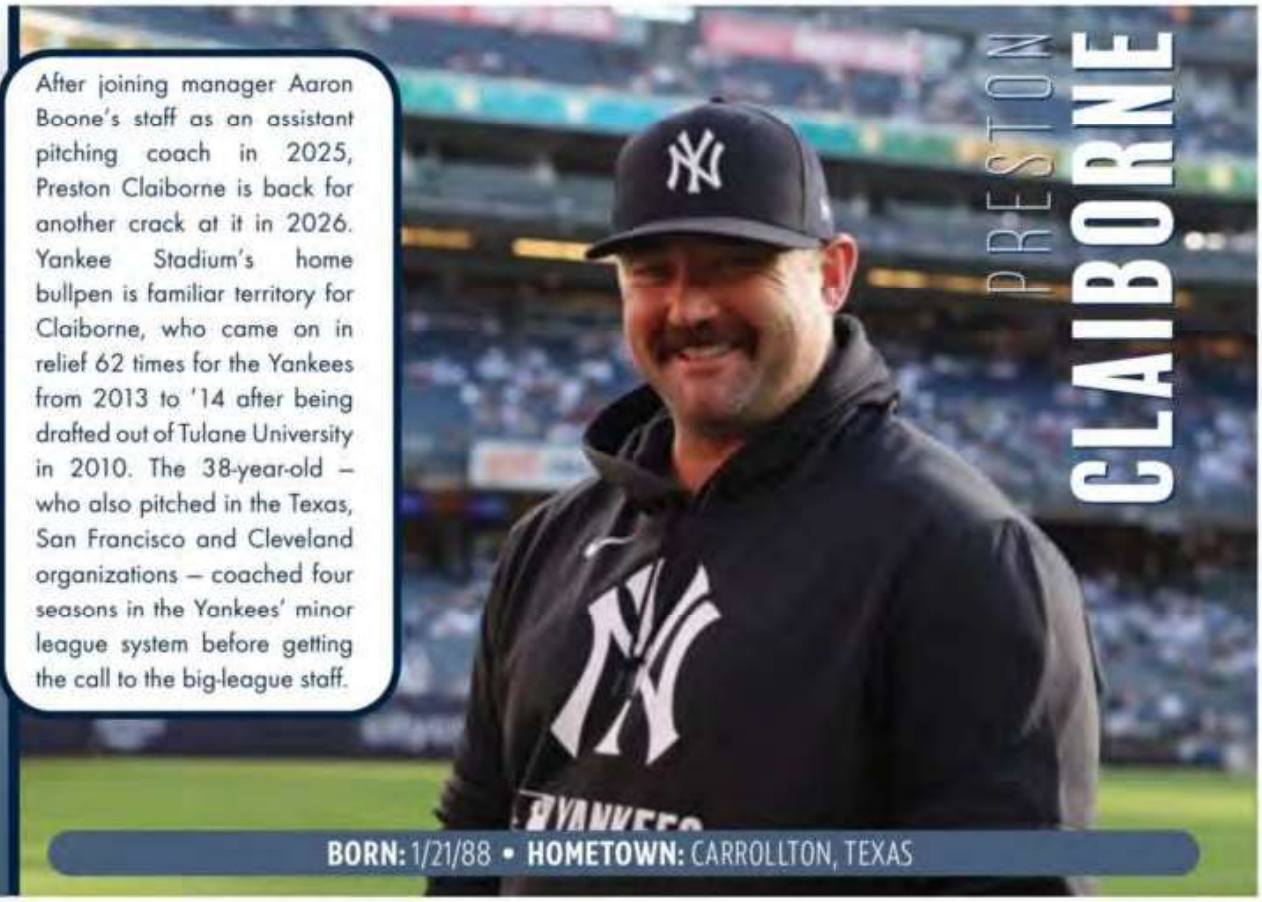
Coaching elite big-league pitchers forces you to mix elements you might find in a psychology class with others you'd learn in a philosophy lecture hall. Is it any surprise, then, that Yankees pitching coach Matt Blake, now in his seventh season, has a degree from Holy Cross in ... psychology and philosophy? The knowledge he gained during his time as an undergrad has served him well in The Show. Since Blake joined the staff in 2020, the team's pitchers have been among the American League's top three units in everything from FIP to K/9 to – most importantly – wins.

BORN: 5/14/85 • **HOMETOWN:** CONCORD, N.H.

79

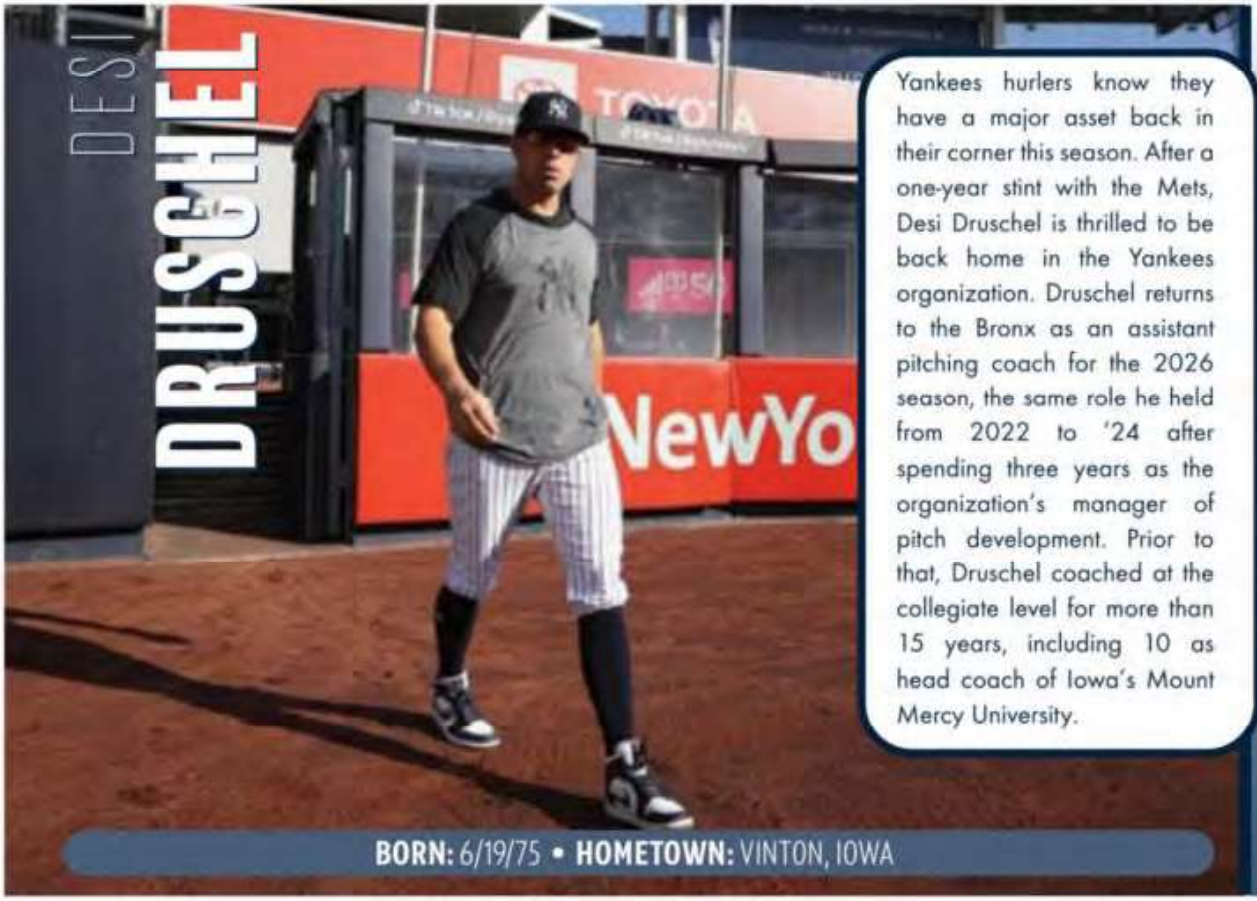
ASSISTANT PITCHING COACH

PRESTON CLAIBORNE



After joining manager Aaron Boone's staff as an assistant pitching coach in 2025, Preston Claiborne is back for another crack at it in 2026. Yankee Stadium's home bullpen is familiar territory for Claiborne, who came on in relief 62 times for the Yankees from 2013 to '14 after being drafted out of Tulane University in 2010. The 38-year-old – who also pitched in the Texas, San Francisco and Cleveland organizations – coached four seasons in the Yankees' minor league system before getting the call to the big-league staff.

BORN: 1/21/88 • **HOMETOWN:** CARROLLTON, TEXAS

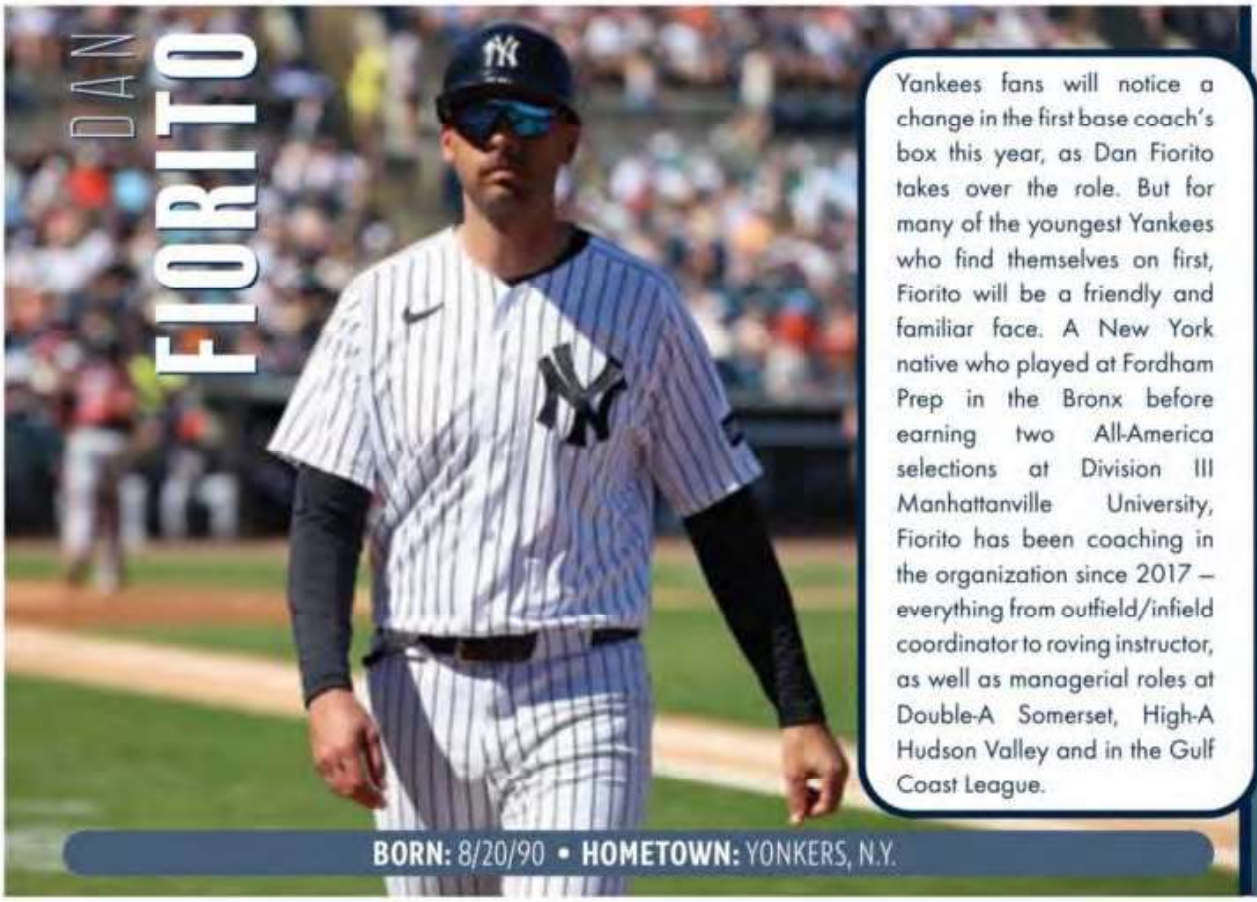


DESI DRUSCHEL

83 ASSISTANT PITCHING COACH

Yankees hurlers know they have a major asset back in their corner this season. After a one-year stint with the Mets, Desi Druschel is thrilled to be back home in the Yankees organization. Druschel returns to the Bronx as an assistant pitching coach for the 2026 season, the same role he held from 2022 to '24 after spending three years as the organization's manager of pitch development. Prior to that, Druschel coached at the collegiate level for more than 15 years, including 10 as head coach of Iowa's Mount Mercy University.

BORN: 6/19/75 • **HOMETOWN:** VINTON, IOWA



DAN FIORITO

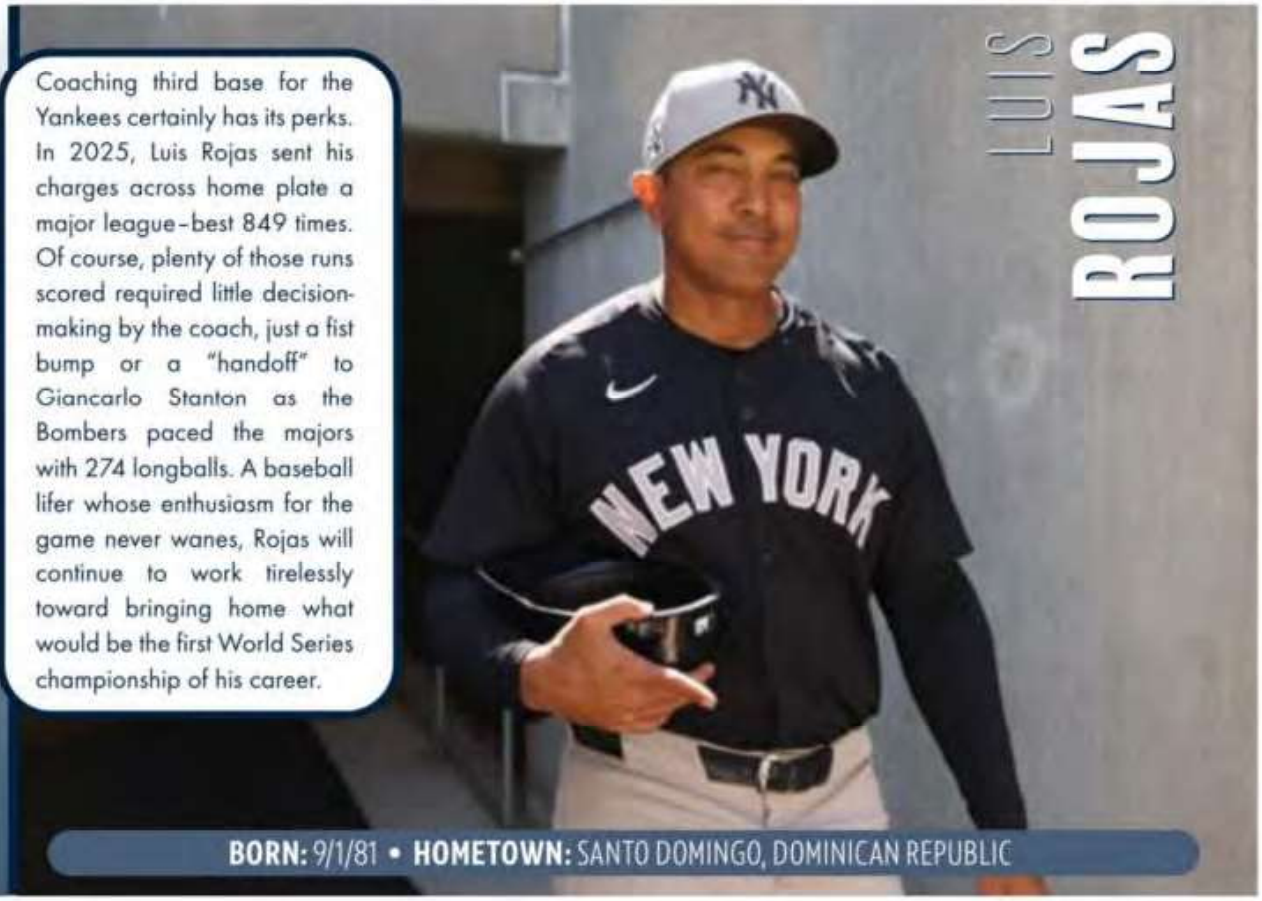
85 FIRST BASE/INFIELD/ BASERUNNING COACH

Yankees fans will notice a change in the first base coach's box this year, as Dan Fiorito takes over the role. But for many of the youngest Yankees who find themselves on first, Fiorito will be a friendly and familiar face. A New York native who played at Fordham Prep in the Bronx before earning two All-America selections at Division III Manhattanville University, Fiorito has been coaching in the organization since 2017 – everything from outfield/infield coordinator to roving instructor, as well as managerial roles at Double-A Somerset, High-A Hudson Valley and in the Gulf Coast League.

BORN: 8/20/90 • **HOMETOWN:** YONKERS, N.Y.

67 THIRD BASE/ OUTFIELD COACH

LUIS ROJAS

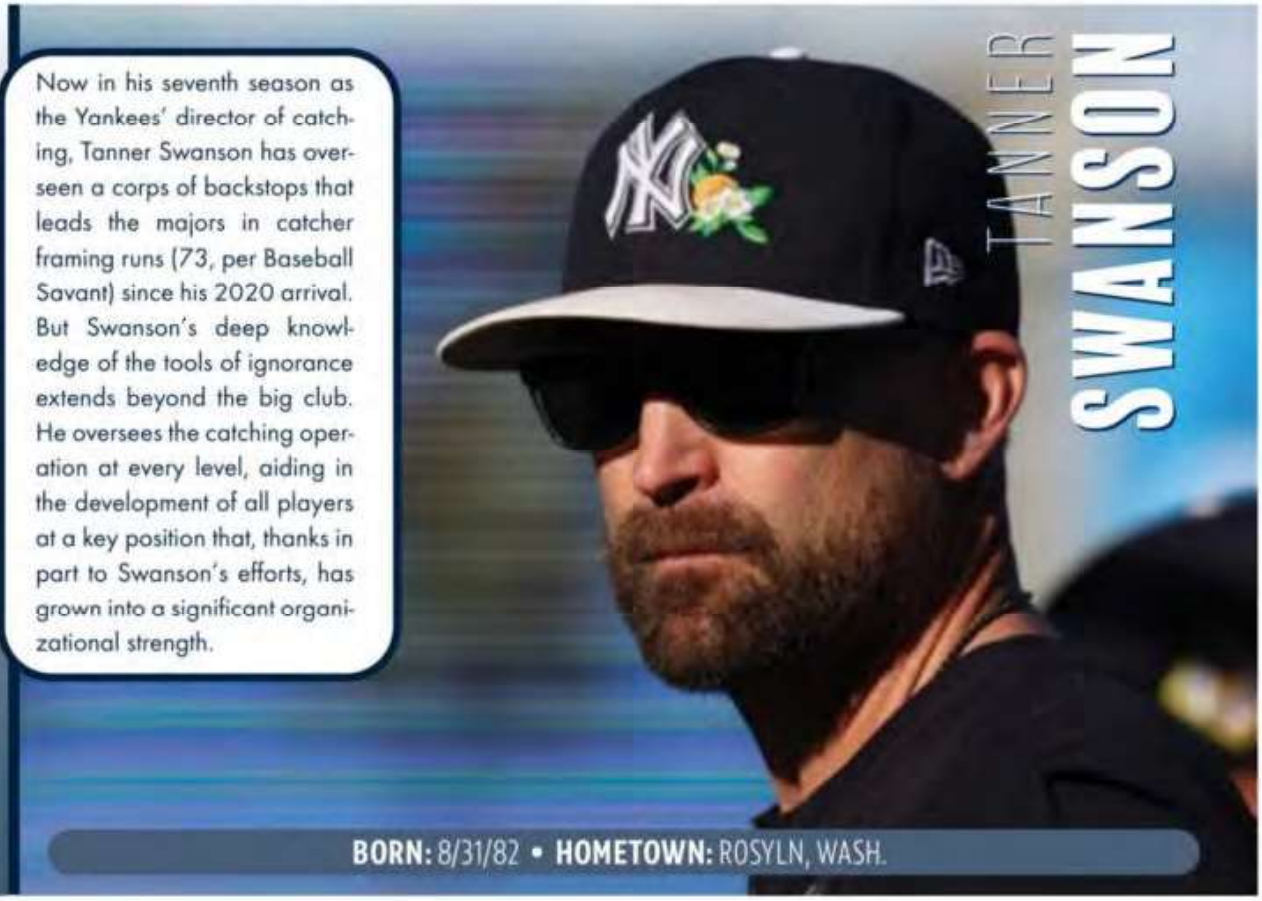


Coaching third base for the Yankees certainly has its perks. In 2025, Luis Rojas sent his charges across home plate a major league–best 849 times. Of course, plenty of those runs scored required little decision-making by the coach, just a fist bump or a "handoff" to Giancarlo Stanton as the Bombers paced the majors with 274 longballs. A baseball lifer whose enthusiasm for the game never wanes, Rojas will continue to work tirelessly toward bringing home what would be the first World Series championship of his career.

BORN: 9/1/81 • **HOMETOWN:** SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

76 FIELD COORDINATOR/ DIRECTOR OF CATCHING

TANNER SWANSON



Now in his seventh season as the Yankees' director of catching, Tanner Swanson has overseen a corps of backstops that leads the majors in catcher framing runs (73, per Baseball Savant) since his 2020 arrival. But Swanson's deep knowledge of the tools of ignorance extends beyond the big club. He oversees the catching operation at every level, aiding in the development of all players at a key position that, thanks in part to Swanson's efforts, has grown into a significant organizational strength.

BORN: 8/31/82 • **HOMETOWN:** ROSYLN, WASH.

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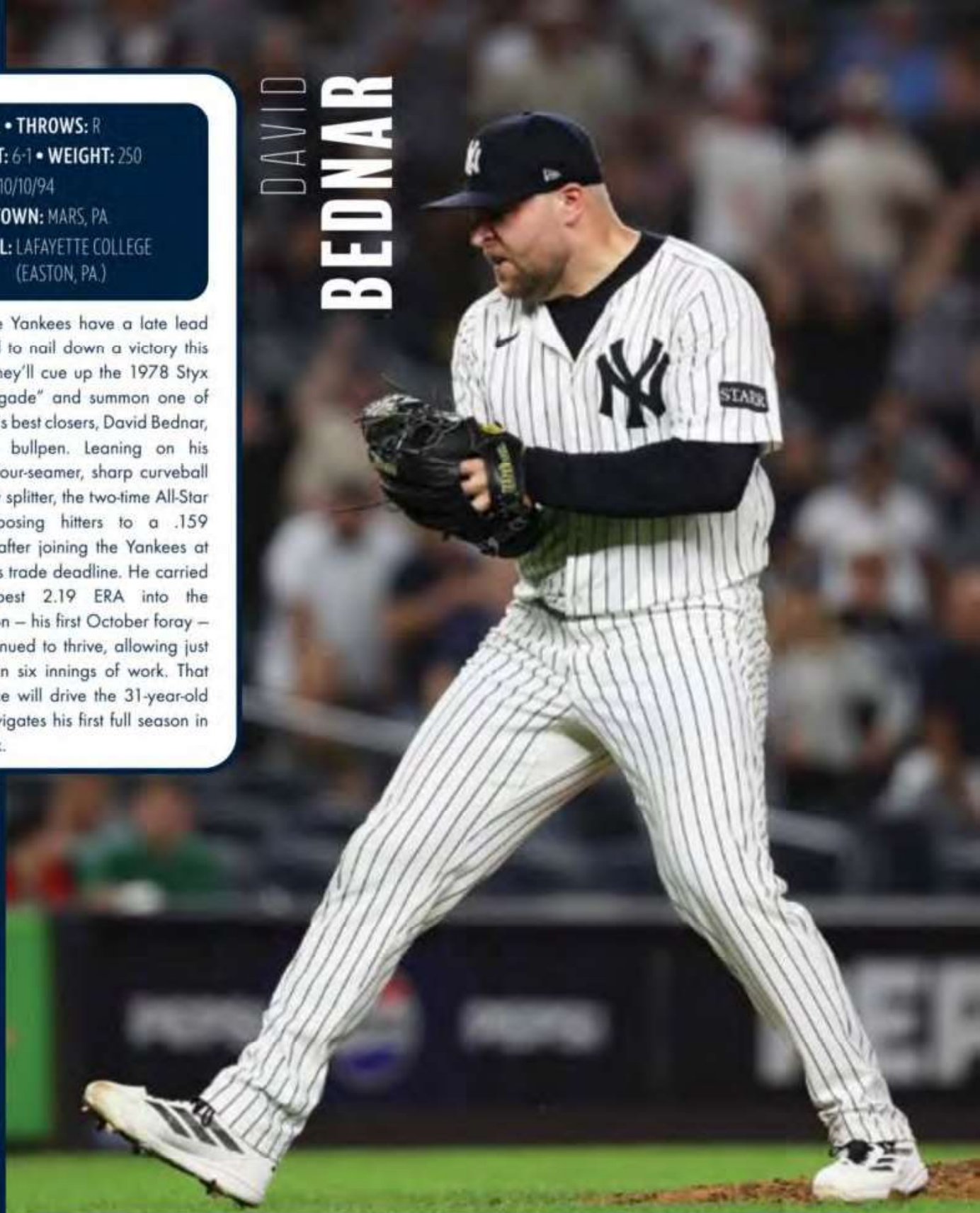
53 PITCHER

DAVID BEDNAR

BATS: L • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-1 • **WEIGHT:** 250
BORN: 10/10/94
HOMETOWN: MARS, PA.
SCHOOL: LAFAYETTE COLLEGE (EASTON, PA.)

When the Yankees have a late lead and need to nail down a victory this season, they'll cue up the 1978 Styx hit "Renegade" and summon one of the game's best closers, David Bednar, from the bullpen. Leaning on his 97 mph four-seamer, sharp curveball and nasty splitter, the two-time All-Star held opposing hitters to a .159 average after joining the Yankees at last year's trade deadline. He carried a team-best 2.19 ERA into the postseason – his first October foray – and continued to thrive, allowing just one run in six innings of work. That experience will drive the 31-year-old as he navigates his first full season in New York.



ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE PITTSBURGH PIRATES ON JULY 31, 2025

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025 (PIT/NYY)	6	5	2.30	64	0	0	0	27	62.2	46	18	16	4	19	86
CAREER	18	23	3.15	315	0	0	0	111	317.1	256	128	111	29	110	389

OSVALDO BIDO

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-3 • **WEIGHT:** 204
BORN: 10/18/95
HOMETOWN: LOS HIDALGOS, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

With a five-pitch arsenal at his disposal, Osvaldo Bido played the role of starter and relief option over his first three big-league seasons. Relying heavily on his fastball and slider, Bido posted career highs in innings pitched and strikeouts during a 2025 season spent with the A's. The 30-year-old is looking forward to a new home ballpark in 2026 after pitching in Sacramento, California's Sutter Health Park, where he allowed 13 home runs — including the first of Jasson Domínguez's three blasts on May 9, 2025 — in 44⅓ innings. With the Yankees, Bido will look to reestablish the mid-90s four-seamer that hitters managed a paltry .212 average against in 2024.

ACQUIRED: CLAIMED OFF WAIVERS FROM THE LOS ANGELES ANGELS ON FEB. 5, 2026.

PITCHER

56

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025 (ATH)	2	5	5.87	26	10	0	0	1	79.2	93	56	52	19	35	68
CAREER	9	13	5.07	58	28	0	0	1	193.2	191	116	109	26	82	179

59 PITCHER

JAKE BIRD

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-3 • **WEIGHT:** 215
BORN: 12/4/95
HOMETOWN: SANTA CLARITA, CALIF.
SCHOOL: UCLA (LOS ANGELES, CALIF.)

From 2022 to '25, Jake Bird acclimated to the high altitude of Denver, pitching in more than 100 games at Coors Field. In 2023, he tied for eighth in the National League with 70 appearances and proved to be a valuable piece in the Rockies 'pen again in 2024, earning his lone career save. Bird remained consistent during the first half of the 2025 season before a trade brought him to the Bronx. With a full offseason to regroup from a difficult initial stint comprising three games with the Yankees and 15 appearances at Triple-A, Bird is aiming to return to the form that allowed him to be a key contributor in relief for Colorado.

ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE COLORADO ROCKIES ON JULY 31, 2025.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025 (COL/NYY)	4	2	5.53	48	0	0	0	0	55.1	60	37	34	7	25	66
CAREER	11	11	4.76	191	3	0	0	1	232.1	242	134	123	25	100	216

PAUL BLACKBURN

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-1 • **WEIGHT:** 196
BORN: 12/4/93
HOMETOWN: ANTIOCH, CALIF.
SCHOOL: HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL (BRENTWOOD, CALIF.)

After spending the first seven and a half seasons of his career with the A's, Paul Blackburn has found a new home in the Big Apple. An American League All-Star in 2022, Blackburn was sent to the Mets at the 2024 trade deadline, then signed with the Yankees after the Mets released him in August 2025. The West Coast transplant was on the mound for the last out of all eight regular-season games he appeared in with the Yanks and was on the team's roster for the 2025 Wild Card Series and ALDS. Brought back after hitting free agency, Blackburn hopes to play an even more significant role on the Yankees' pitching staff in his first full season in the Bronx.

ACQUIRED: SIGNED TO A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT ON JAN. 15, 2026.

PITCHER

58

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025 (NYM/NYY)	0	3	6.23	15	4	0	0	1	39	47	29	27	6	12	34
CAREER	22	31	4.97	101	86	0	0	1	467.1	517	269	258	62	144	363

KERVIN CASTRO

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 5-10 • **WEIGHT:** 234
BORN: 2/7/99
HOMETOWN:
MARACAY, VENEZUELA

After battling back from elbow surgery that cost him the 2024 season, Kervin Castro returned at the minor league level in 2025 on a mission. As a reliever for Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, Castro posted a 1.53 ERA in 47 innings of work, striking out 52 batters while going 5-1 with four saves. Castro gave opposing batters fits, holding them to a .164 batting average last season. Looking to return to the majors for the first time since 2022, Castro continues his journey in the Yankees organization aiming to show he can deliver when called upon.

PITCHER

74

ACQUIRED: SELECTED IN THE MINOR LEAGUE PHASE OF THE RULE 5 DRAFT FROM THE HOUSTON ASTROS ON DEC. 6, 2023.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2025.														
CAREER	1	2	4.91	20	0	0	0	0	25.2	28	15	14	3	11	24

ANGEL CHIVILLI

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-2 • **WEIGHT:** 185
BORN: 7/28/02
HOMETOWN: LA VICTORIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The nature of baseball is that players never really know when they will get the call to The Show. For Angel Chivilli, it came early, as 2024 saw him debut at just 21 years old, the third-youngest pitcher to get called up that season. Chivilli has a four-seam fastball in the high 90s but also sports a changeup and slider that both produced a whiff percentage above 40% in 2025. The Yankees have shown that age is not necessarily an impediment if a pitcher can get outs in the bigs, and this young right-hander is looking to make his mark in the Bronx.

ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE COLORADO ROCKIES ON JAN. 28, 2026.

PITCHER

57

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025 (COL)	1	5	7.06	43	0	0	0	0	58.2	76	49	46	13	23	43
CAREER	3	8	6.18	73	0	0	0	1	90.1	107	66	62	20	33	71

GERRIT COLE

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-4 • **WEIGHT:** 220
BORN: 9/8/90
HOMETOWN: SANTA ANA, CALIF.
SCHOOL: UCLA (LOS ANGELES, CALIF.)

The Yankees' pitching staff will get a major upgrade in 2026 with the return of a very familiar face. Gerrit Cole, the team's leader in myriad ways since coming to New York, missed the entire 2025 season while recovering from Tommy John surgery. When he returns, Cole will look to add to his sparkling Yankees resume, which includes the 2023 AL Cy Young Award and 915 strikeouts – a total that has him within reach of becoming the 13th pitcher all time to amass 1,000 K's in pinstripes. The 12-year veteran's main focus will be getting his team back to the Fall Classic, where he dominated in 2024, yielding just one earned run in 12⅔ innings against the Dodgers.

PITCHER

45

ACQUIRED: SIGNED A NINE-YEAR CONTRACT THROUGH 2028 ON DEC. 18, 2019.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2025.														
CAREER	153	80	3.18	317	317	8	5	0	1,954	1,627	740	690	217	500	2,251

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63 PITCHER

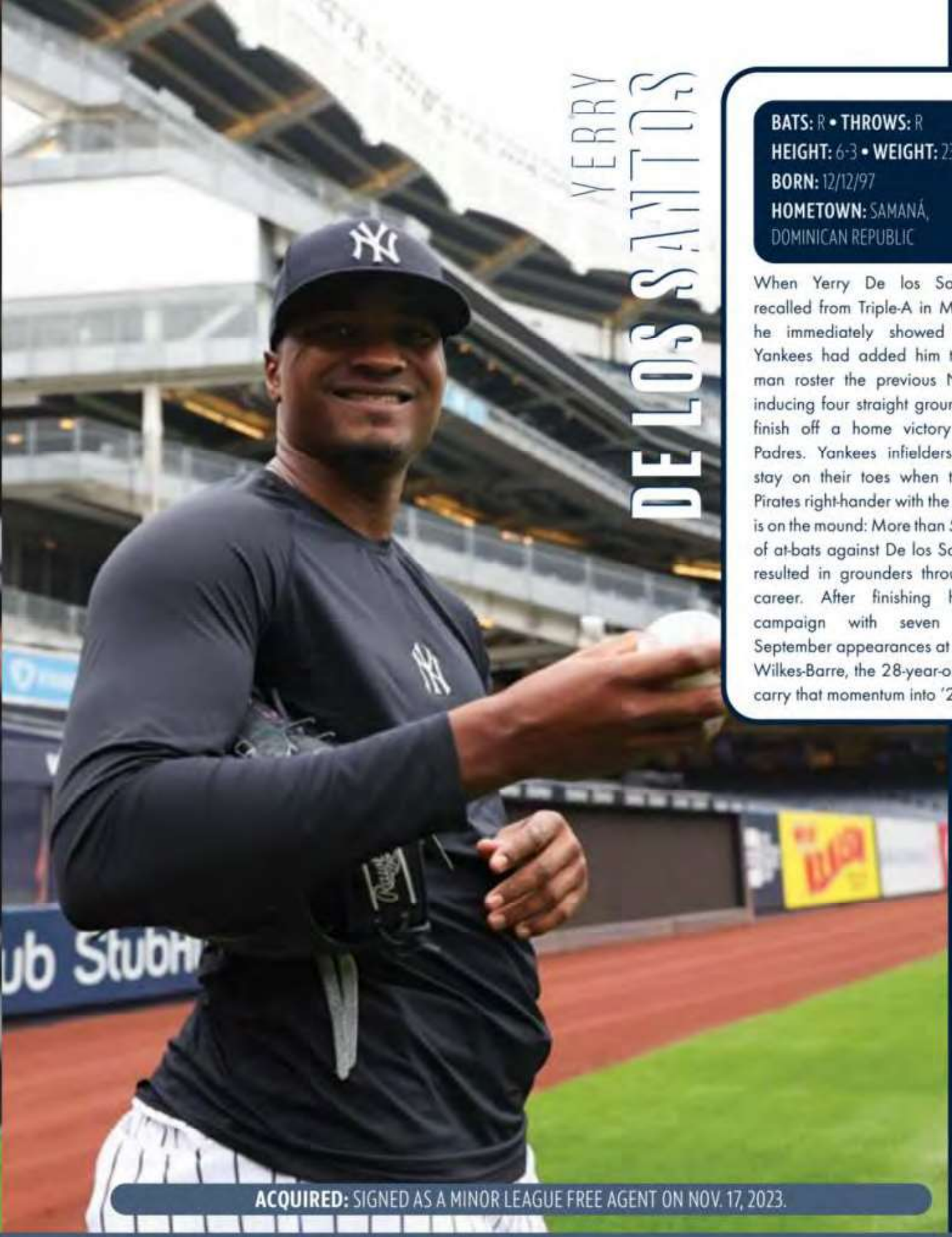
FERNANDO CRUZ

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-2 • **WEIGHT:** 237
BORN: 3/28/90
HOMETOWN:
BAYAMÓN, PUERTO RICO

With 300 career strikeouts in fewer than 200 innings pitched, Fernando Cruz's numbers speak for themselves. But statistics only tell part of the story. Before his metamorphosis into a lights-out reliever with a nearly unhittable splitter, Cruz was a Royals minor league infielder chasing his childhood dream. The 36-year-old – who grew up a staunch Yankees fan – is now an integral part of the Bronx bullpen and cherishes every opportunity to pitch in pinstripes, unleashing a torrent of emotion on the mound after getting huge outs, such as the ones he recorded against Boston and Toronto last October during the first postseason action of his career.

ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE CINCINNATI REDS ON DEC. 20, 2024.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	3	4	3.56	49	0	0	0	2	48	33	21	19	5	24	72
CAREER	7	15	4.28	190	7	0	0	2	195.1	148	99	93	21	96	300



YERRY DE LOS SANTOS

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-3 • **WEIGHT:** 230
BORN: 12/12/97
HOMETOWN: SAMANÁ, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

When Yerry De los Santos was recalled from Triple-A in May 2025, he immediately showed why the Yankees had added him to the 40-man roster the previous November, inducing four straight ground balls to finish off a home victory over the Padres. Yankees infielders know to stay on their toes when the former Pirates right-hander with the plus sinker is on the mound: More than 55 percent of at-bats against De los Santos have resulted in grounders throughout his career. After finishing his 2025 campaign with seven scoreless September appearances at Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, the 28-year-old looks to carry that momentum into '26.

ACQUIRED: SIGNED AS A MINOR LEAGUE FREE AGENT ON NOV. 17, 2023.

PITCHER

73

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	0	1	3.28	25	0	0	0	0	35.2	37	15	13	1	17	28
CAREER	1	5	3.78	73	0	0	0	3	85.2	76	43	36	5	41	72

75 PITCHER

CAMILO DOVAL

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-2 • **WEIGHT:** 205
BORN: 7/4/97
HOMETOWN: YAMASA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

When the Yankees went all in on relievers at the 2025 trade deadline, seeking to rework a bullpen that had been inconsistent in the season's first half, Camilo Doval was one of their top targets. An All-Star in 2023 when he led the National League in saves, the right-hander has built a sparkling resume off a swing-and-miss slider that helped him produce an 11.1 K/9 ratio entering the 2026 season and a ground-ball percentage that ranks among the sport's elite. Doval sets up his high-80s breaking ball with a triple-digit cutter that he throws nearly as often. The Dominican Republic native turns 29 this summer and is under team control through the 2027 season.

ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS ON JULY 31, 2025.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025 (SF/NYY)	4	3	3.58	69	0	0	0	16	65.1	51	34	26	4	35	72
CAREER	26	19	3.39	297	0	0	0	108	286.2	229	138	108	20	139	354

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MAX FRIED

BATS: L • **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6-4 • **WEIGHT:** 190
BORN: 1/18/94
HOMETOWN: ENCINO, CALIF.
SCHOOL: HARVARD-WESTLAKE H.S. (LOS ANGELES, CALIF.)

Max Fried came to the Bronx with significant expectations heading into the 2025 season. In his first pinstriped campaign, he delivered, emerging as the team's ace and remaining one of the most productive starters in the sport. Following an eight-year tenure with the Braves, the 2021 World Series champion paced the majors with 19 wins, led the AL with a .792 winning percentage and finished fourth in AL Cy Young voting. He also earned his third All-Star selection and took home the fourth Gold Glove Award of his career. With a full season in New York under his belt, Fried – who spun 6⅓ scoreless innings against Boston in his first postseason start in pinstripes – is poised to lead the way once again in 2026.

54 PITCHER

ACQUIRED: SIGNED TO AN EIGHT-YEAR CONTRACT THROUGH 2032 ON DEC. 17, 2024.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	19	5	2.86	32	32	0	0	0	195.1	164	73	62	14	51	189
CAREER	92	41	3.03	200	183	6	4	0	1,079.2	947	405	364	90	297	1,052

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81 PITCHER

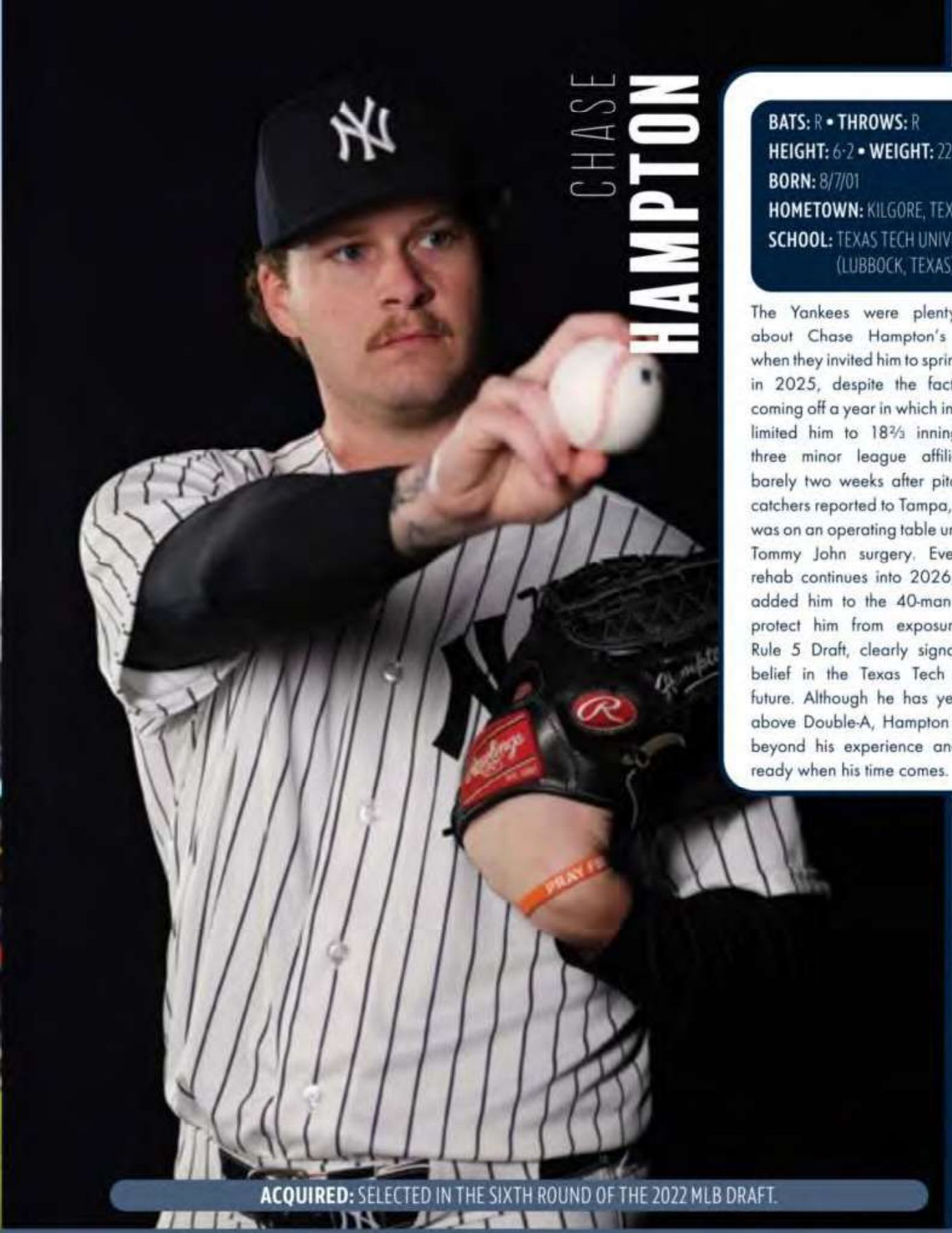
LUIS GIL

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-3 • **WEIGHT:** 215
BORN: 6/3/98
HOMETOWN: AZUA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

In 2024, Luis Gil and Paul Skenes became just the eighth and ninth starting pitchers in either league to win Rookie of the Year honors since 2000, joining a list that includes names such as Jacob deGrom and Justin Verlander. Gil missed much of the 2025 season while recovering from a lat strain that delayed his debut until August, but Yankees brass remains bullish on his immense upside. After a strong finish – Gil went 4-0 with a 2.68 ERA over his final 10 starts of '25 – the right-hander looks to reclaim his spot in a rotation that figures to be a strength of a 2026 team with lofty goals.

ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE MINNESOTA TWINS ON MARCH 16, 2018.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	4	1	3.32	11	11	0	0	0	57	47	23	21	5	33	41
CAREER	20	9	3.50	47	47	0	0	0	242	176	98	94	27	131	255



CHASE HAMPTON

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-2 • **WEIGHT:** 225
BORN: 8/7/01
HOMETOWN: KILGORE, TEXAS
SCHOOL: TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY (LUBBOCK, TEXAS)

The Yankees were plenty excited about Chase Hampton's potential when they invited him to spring training in 2025, despite the fact he was coming off a year in which injuries had limited him to 18⅔ innings across three minor league affiliates. But barely two weeks after pitchers and catchers reported to Tampa, Hampton was on an operating table undergoing Tommy John surgery. Even as his rehab continues into 2026, the club added him to the 40-man roster to protect him from exposure to the Rule 5 Draft, clearly signaling their belief in the Texas Tech product's future. Although he has yet to pitch above Double-A, Hampton is mature beyond his experience and will be ready when his time comes.

ACQUIRED: SELECTED IN THE SIXTH ROUND OF THE 2022 MLB DRAFT.

PITCHER

86

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2025.														
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES.														

BRENT HEADRICK

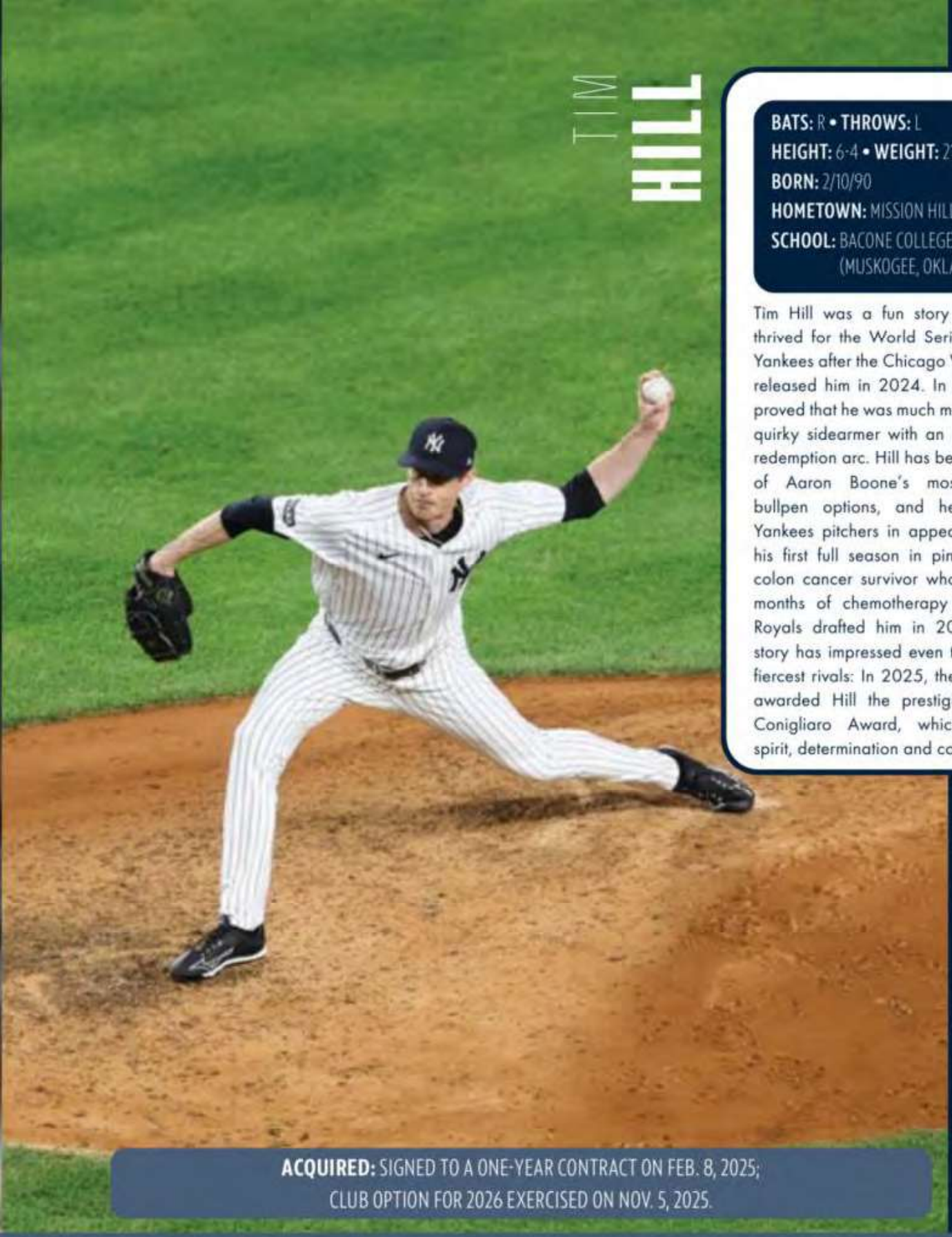
BATS: L • **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6-6 • **WEIGHT:** 235
BORN: 12/17/97
HOMETOWN: BRAIDWOOD, ILL.
SCHOOL: ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY (NORMAL, ILL.)

Relievers are often tasked with protecting a lead or keeping a game close down the stretch, and the Yankees know when they need someone to battle from the mound in those middle innings, Brent Headrick provides a sturdy option. The southpaw with the fastball-slider-splitter mix fought off injuries in 2025, but when he was on the mound, he did not allow a run in 13 of his 17 appearances over three different stints in the Bronx. A ninth-round pick of the Twins in 2019 who earned a save in his April 2023 big-league debut, Headrick aims for a healthy 2026 that leads to even greater success.

47 PITCHER

ACQUIRED: CLAIMED OFF WAIVERS FROM THE MINNESOTA TWINS ON FEB. 11, 2025.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	0	0	3.13	17	0	0	0	0	23	17	8	8	4	7	30
CAREER	3	0	4.70	32	0	0	0	1	51.2	46	27	27	12	19	65



TIM HILL

BATS: R • **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6-4 • **WEIGHT:** 210
BORN: 2/10/90
HOMETOWN: MISSION HILLS, CALIF.
SCHOOL: BACONE COLLEGE (MUSKOGEE, OKLA.)

Tim Hill was a fun story when he thrived for the World Series–bound Yankees after the Chicago White Sox released him in 2024. In 2025, he proved that he was much more than a quirky sidearmer with an interesting redemption arc. Hill has become one of Aaron Boone's most trusted bullpen options, and he led all Yankees pitchers in appearances in his first full season in pinstripes. A colon cancer survivor who endured months of chemotherapy after the Royals drafted him in 2014, Hill's story has impressed even the team's fiercest rivals: In 2025, the Red Sox awarded Hill the prestigious Tony Conigliaro Award, which honors spirit, determination and courage.

ACQUIRED: SIGNED TO A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT ON FEB. 8, 2025; CLUB OPTION FOR 2026 EXERCISED ON NOV. 5, 2025.

PITCHER

41

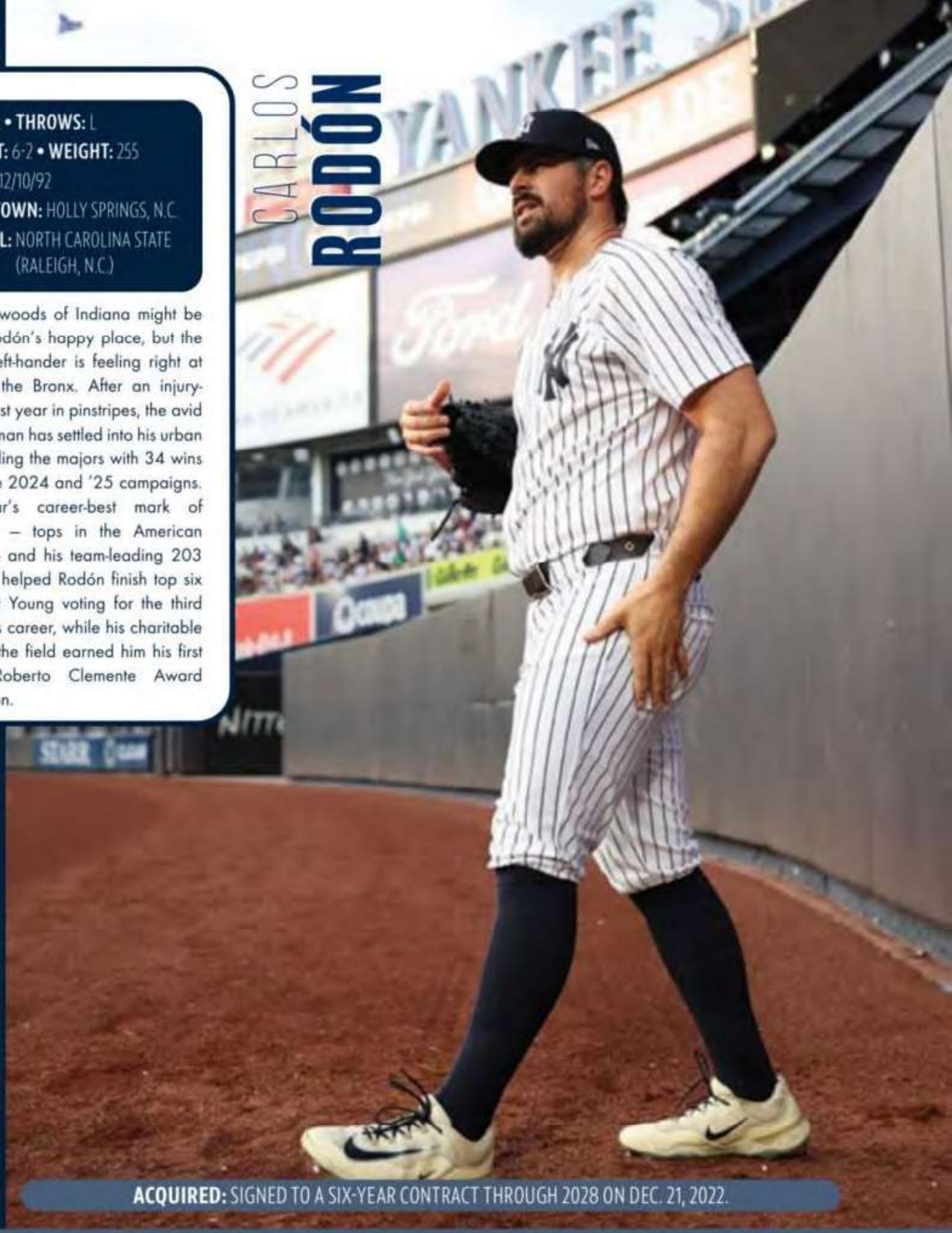
	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	4	4	3.09	70	0	0	0	0	67	58	27	23	8	16	37
CAREER	24	18	3.84	452	0	0	0	4	389.1	384	203	166	38	119	276

55 PITCHER

CARLOS RODÓN

BATS: L • **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6-2 • **WEIGHT:** 255
BORN: 12/10/92
HOMETOWN: HOLLY SPRINGS, N.C.
SCHOOL: NORTH CAROLINA STATE (RALEIGH, N.C.)

The backwoods of Indiana might be Carlos Rodón's happy place, but the veteran left-hander is feeling right at home in the Bronx. After an injury-marred first year in pinstripes, the avid outdoorsman has settled into his urban digs, leading the majors with 34 wins across the 2024 and '25 campaigns. Last year's career-best mark of 6.1 H/9 – tops in the American League – and his team-leading 203 strikeouts helped Rodón finish top six in the Cy Young voting for the third time in his career, while his charitable work off the field earned him his first career Roberto Clemente Award nomination.



ACQUIRED: SIGNED TO A SIX-YEAR CONTRACT THROUGH 2028 ON DEC. 21, 2022.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	18	9	3.09	33	33	0	0	0	195.1	132	74	67	22	73	203
CAREER	93	72	3.73	231	226	3	1	0	1,282	1,085	574	532	159	477	1,409

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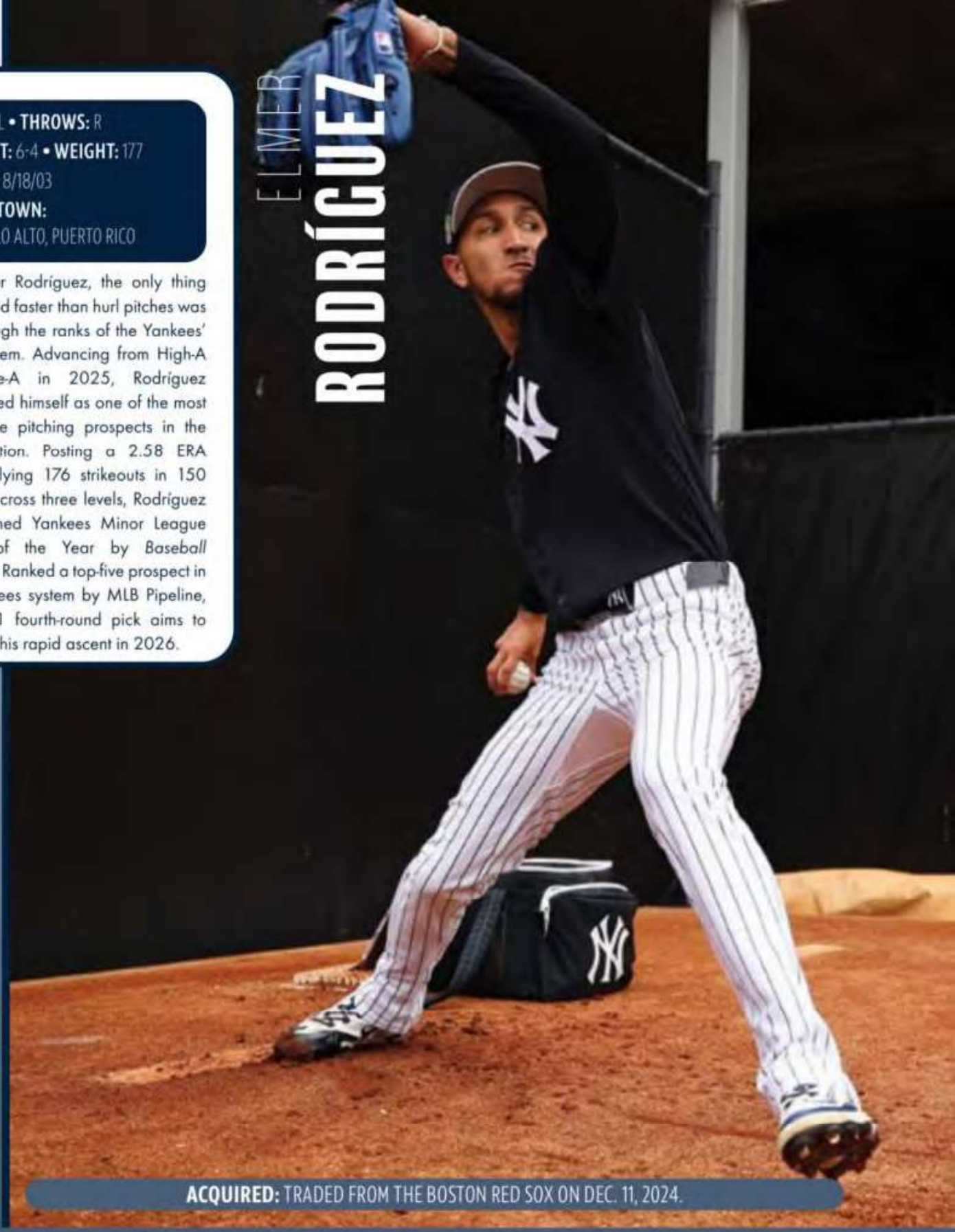
ELMER RODRÍGUEZ

BATS: L • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-4 • **WEIGHT:** 177
BORN: 8/18/03
HOMETOWN:
TRUJILLO ALTO, PUERTO RICO

For Elmer Rodríguez, the only thing that he did faster than hurl pitches was rise through the ranks of the Yankees' farm system. Advancing from High-A to Triple-A in 2025, Rodríguez established himself as one of the most impressive pitching prospects in the organization. Posting a 2.58 ERA while tallying 176 strikeouts in 150 innings across three levels, Rodríguez was named Yankees Minor League Player of the Year by *Baseball America*. Ranked a top-five prospect in the Yankees system by MLB Pipeline, the 2021 fourth-round pick aims to continue his rapid ascent in 2026.

76

PITCHER



ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE BOSTON RED SOX ON DEC. 11, 2024.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2025.														
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES.														

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31 PITCHER

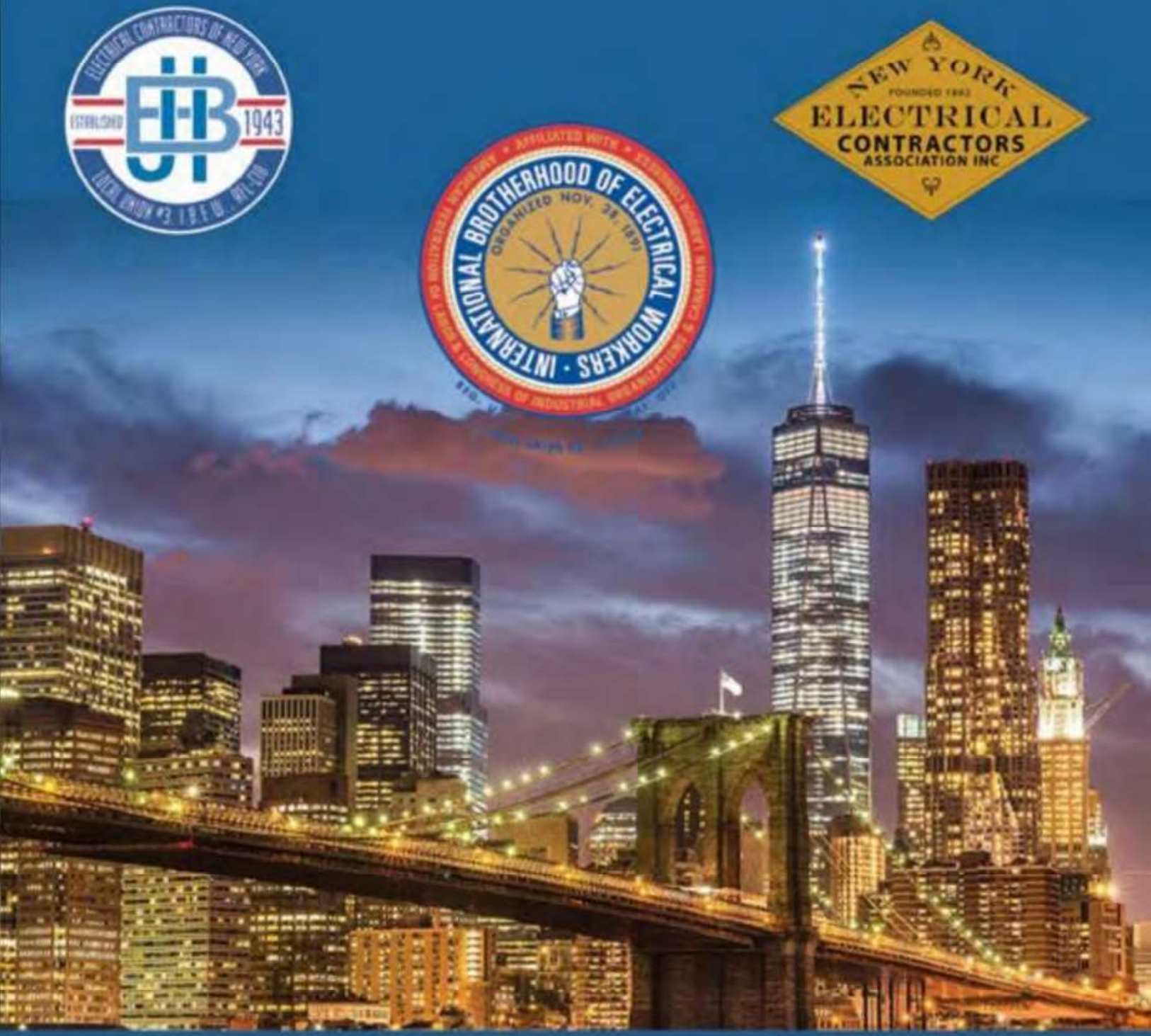
CAM SCHLITTLER

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-6 • **WEIGHT:** 215
BORN: 2/5/01
HOMETOWN: WALPOLE, MASS.
SCHOOL: NORTHEASTERN UNIV. (BOSTON, MASS.)

Many ballplayers dream of making their hometown proud; Cam Schlittler revels in the chance to needle folks back home. Hailing from Walpole, about 20 miles from Fenway Park, Schlittler eagerly switched allegiances when the Yankees selected him out of Northeastern four years ago. And in the deciding contest of the 2025 AL Wild Card Series – a game that saw Bucky Dent throw out the ceremonial first pitch – Schlittler became the newest Red Sox nemesis, twirling eight stunning scoreless innings and striking out 12 in his postseason debut. After such a promising start, the Yankees expect even more dramatics from the 6-foot-6 hurler in his first full year in the big leagues.

ACQUIRED: SELECTED IN THE SEVENTH ROUND OF THE 2022 MLB DRAFT.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	4	3	2.96	14	14	0	0	0	73	58	24	24	8	31	84
CAREER	4	3	2.96	14	14	0	0	0	73	58	24	24	8	31	84



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36 PITCHER

CLARKE SCHMIDT

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-1 • **WEIGHT:** 210
BORN: 2/20/96
HOMETOWN: ACWORTH, GA.
SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA (COLUMBIA, S.C.)

After beginning this season on the injured list, Clarke Schmidt will look to pick up right where he left off. Prior to suffering a torn elbow ligament that required Tommy John surgery – his second – in July 2025, Schmidt was firing on all cylinders, authoring a 28⅓-inning scoreless streak in June that was the longest of any AL pitcher last season. Relying heavily on his cutter, Schmidt held opposing hitters to a .199 clip, the lowest opponent batting average of his career. With a goal of returning to form in the second half of this season, Schmidt will give pitching coach Matt Blake another reliable hurler to lean on.

ACQUIRED: SELECTED IN THE FIRST ROUND (16TH) OF THE 2017 MLB DRAFT.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	4	4	3.32	14	14	0	0	0	78.2	56	29	29	9	30	73
CAREER	23	24	3.82	97	67	0	0	2	393.1	360	187	167	47	139	384

WILL WARREN

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-2 • **WEIGHT:** 200
BORN: 6/16/99
HOMETOWN: BRANDON, MISS.
SCHOOL: S.E. LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY (HAMMOND, LA.)

On the heels of a rookie season filled with strong outings, Will Warren is expected to again be a steadying force on the Yankees' pitching staff in 2026. In his league-leading 33 starts, Warren gave the Yankees at least five innings of work on 23 occasions, allowing two or fewer runs 21 times. In an early May victory against the A's, Warren allowed just one run over 7⅓ innings, and he reached double-digit strikeout totals in two other starts. With a repertoire that includes a potent sinker, sweeper and changeup, along with a powerful fastball, Warren – who finished eighth in AL Rookie of the Year voting – has all the tools to improve on his first go-round.

ACQUIRED: SELECTED IN THE EIGHTH ROUND OF THE 2021 MLB DRAFT.

29 PITCHER

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	9	8	4.44	33	33	0	0	0	162.1	158	90	80	22	65	171
CAREER	9	11	5.16	39	38	0	0	0	185	191	117	106	27	75	200

RYAN WEATHERS

BATS: R • **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6-1 • **WEIGHT:** 230
BORN: 12/17/99
HOMETOWN: LORETTO, TENN.
SCHOOL: LORETTO HIGH SCHOOL (LORETTO, TENN.)

At 26 years old, Ryan Weathers arrived in New York at the same age his father was when the Marlins traded him to the Yankees in 1996. Three decades after David Weathers won a title in pinstripes, his son will try to repeat history. Although the younger Weathers has dealt with injuries in recent years, he has been sharp when healthy, posting a 3.63 ERA in 16 starts for Miami in 2024 and a 3.99 ERA in eight starts in 2025. With a fastball that tops out in the high 90s and an elite sweeper, the seventh overall pick in the 2018 Draft has the chance to elevate his career as part of a star-studded Yankees rotation.

40 PITCHER

ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE MIAMI MARLINS ON JAN. 13, 2026.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025 (MIA)	2	2	3.99	8	8	0	0	0	38.1	37	20	17	7	12	37
CAREER	12	23	4.93	70	55	0	0	1	281	290	164	154	50	99	235

CADE WINQUEST

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-1 • **WEIGHT:** 217
BORN: 4/30/00
HOMETOWN: FORT WORTH, TEXAS
SCHOOL: UNIV. OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON (ARLINGTON, TEXAS)

The Yankees went nearly a decade and a half without making a selection in the Rule 5 Draft, but Brian Cashman and his crew of front office lieutenants broke that streak when they called Cade Winquest's name last December. Having been excited by the Texas native's swing-and-miss curveball since scouting him as an amateur, the team pounced when St. Louis left Winquest unprotected, betting that the right-hander – who has yet to pitch above Double-A – could hold down a spot on the Yankees' big-league roster for the entire 2026 season. Across three minor league campaigns, 38 of Winquest's 58 appearances came as a starter.

ACQUIRED: SELECTED FROM THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS IN THE 2025 RULE 5 DRAFT.

39 PITCHER

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2025.														
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES.														

33 PITCHER

RYAN YARBROUGH

BATS: R • **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6-5 • **WEIGHT:** 205
BORN: 12/31/91
HOMETOWN: AUSTIN, TEXAS
SCHOOL: OLD DOMINION UNIV. (NORFOLK, VA.)

Ryan Yarbrough first signed with the Yankees just as spring training was ending in 2025, but a few months later, he endured what had to be a strange moment. During a late-May series at Dodger Stadium against his former team, Yarbrough received his 2024 World Series ring. (While the left-hander wasn't on L.A.'s roster by the time the postseason rolled around – and therefore played no role in dispatching the Yankees – he appeared in 32 regular-season games for the eventual champs.) Any awkwardness aside, Yarbrough was an important part of the Yankees' pitching staff in his first season in New York, and he returns for another year to offer valuable depth, whether as a starter or out of the bullpen.

ACQUIRED: SIGNED TO A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT ON NOV. 21, 2025.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2025	3	1	4.36	19	8	0	0	1	64	58	31	31	13	19	55
CAREER	56	41	4.22	215	76	1	0	4	832	790	413	390	112	196	654

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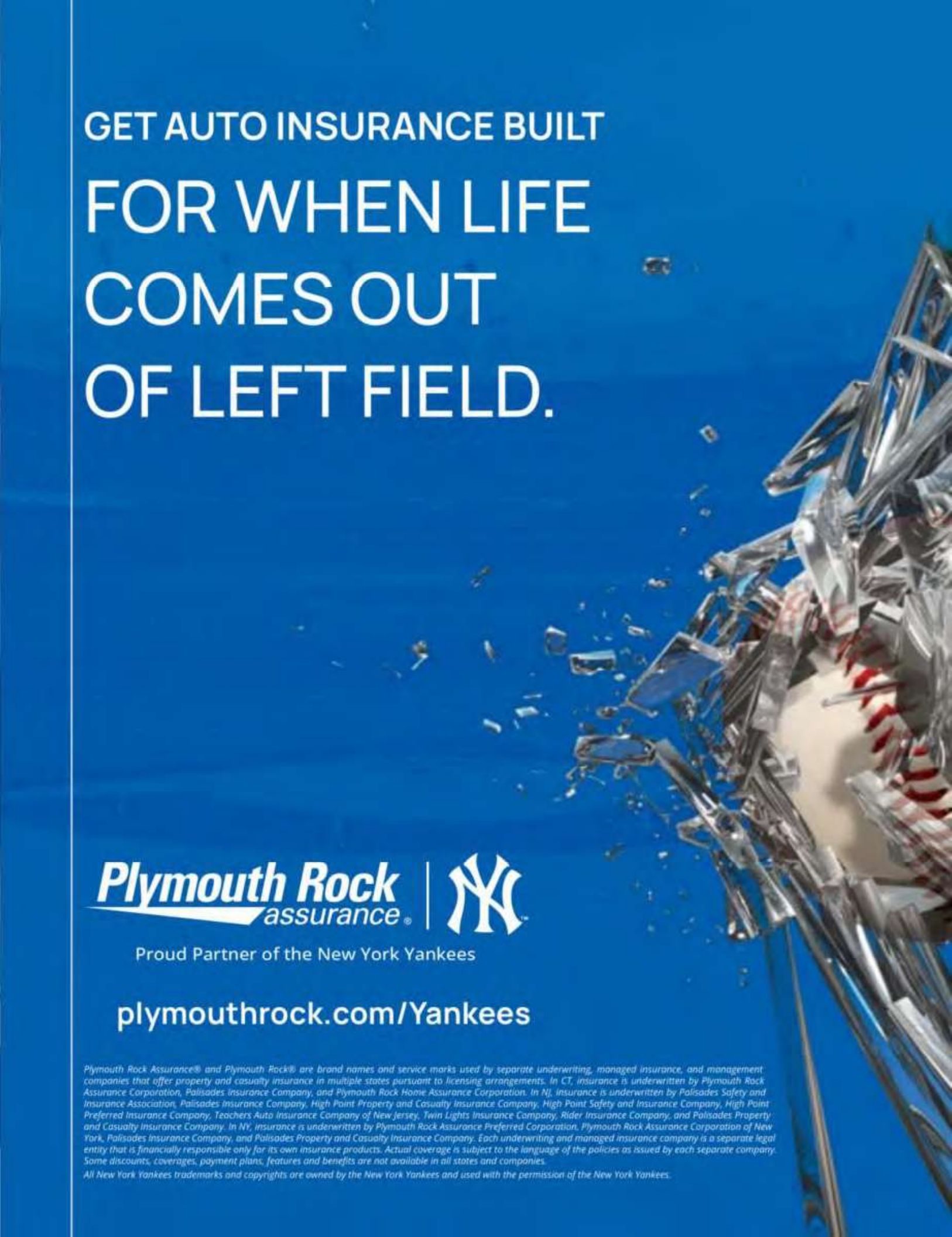

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CATCHERS

25 CATCHER

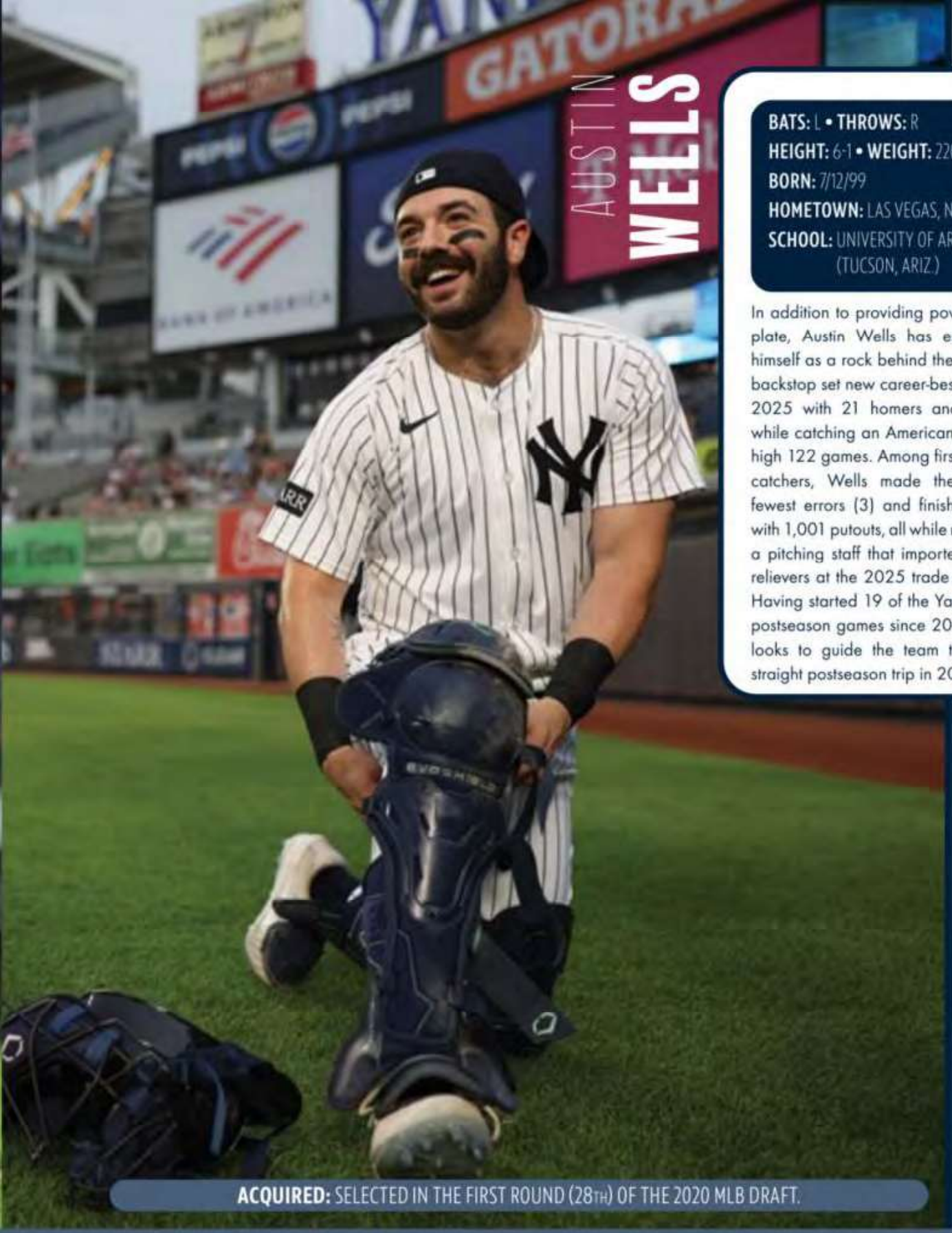
J.C. ESCARRA

BATS: L • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-2 • **WEIGHT:** 220
BORN: 4/24/95
HOMETOWN: HIALEAH, FLA.
SCHOOL: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY (MIAMI, FLA.)

J.C. Escarra not only contributed to the Yankees' success in 2025, but his call to The Show also made for an unforgettable story. After being released in 2022 following five years in the Orioles' minor league system, it appeared as if Escarra's big-league dreams would never come true. But after a two-season stint in independent ball – and working odd jobs to make ends meet – the Yankees signed him in 2024, and he made the most of the opportunity. In 2025, as his 30th birthday neared, Escarra made the big club out of spring training, ultimately playing in 40 games while also batting .300 in 30 games with Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. Escarra will again provide reliability – and inspiration – in the Bronx this season.

ACQUIRED: SIGNED AS A MINOR LEAGUE FREE AGENT ON JAN. 11, 2024.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	40	84	5	17	5	0	2	11	1	11	14	.202	.296	.333
CAREER	40	84	5	17	5	0	2	11	1	11	14	.202	.296	.333



AUSTIN WELLS

BATS: L • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-1 • **WEIGHT:** 220
BORN: 7/12/99
HOMETOWN: LAS VEGAS, NEV.
SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA (TUCSON, ARIZ.)

In addition to providing power at the plate, Austin Wells has established himself as a rock behind the dish. The backstop set new career-best marks in 2025 with 21 homers and 71 RBI while catching an American League–high 122 games. Among first-string AL catchers, Wells made the second-fewest errors (3) and finished fourth with 1,001 putouts, all while managing a pitching staff that imported several relievers at the 2025 trade deadline. Having started 19 of the Yankees' 21 postseason games since 2024, Wells looks to guide the team to a third straight postseason trip in 2026.

ACQUIRED: SELECTED IN THE FIRST ROUND (28TH) OF THE 2020 MLB DRAFT.

28 CATCHER

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	126	401	51	88	22	1	21	71	5	30	118	.219	.275	.436
CAREER	260	825	101	185	46	2	38	139	6	80	219	.224	.294	.423

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INFIELDERS

72 INFIELD

JOSÉ CABALLERO

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 5-9 • **WEIGHT:** 190
BORN: 8/30/96
HOMETOWN:
LAS TABLAS, PANAMA

Versatility has never been more valued in baseball, and José Caballero has it in spades. Since breaking into the majors with Seattle in 2023, the Panamanian dynamo leads all American Leaguers in stolen bases. During a 2025 season split between Tampa Bay and New York, Caballero swiped a major league–best 49 bags while appearing at every position other than catcher and first base. The 29-year-old provides a jolt of energy whenever he steps onto the field and can handle himself at the plate, too, as evidenced by his first career walk-off hit last September that punched the Yankees' ticket to the postseason.

ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE TAMPA BAY RAYS ON JULY 31, 2025.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025 (TB/NYY)	126	314	52	74	18	1	5	36	49	47	98	.236	.339	.347
CAREER	369	986	142	225	51	3	18	106	119	102	297	.228	.316	.341

OSWALDO CABRERA

BATS: S • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-0 • **WEIGHT:** 200
BORN: 3/1/99
HOMETOWN:
GUARENAS, VENEZUELA

For Yankees fans, seeing Oswaldo Cabrera writhing in pain after fracturing his left ankle in a home-plate collision against Seattle on May 12 was one of the defining images of the 2025 season. In typical fashion for the always-positive, ever-smiling utilityman, though, Cabrera had just one question while his teammates watched him get treated and loaded into an ambulance: "Did I score?" he asked captain Aaron Judge, who had indeed recorded an RBI on the fateful sac fly. Even though Cabrera's season ended that night, the Venezuela native was able to walk down the aisle – albeit in a protective boot – for his wedding in July.

ACQUIRED: SIGNED AS A NON-DRAFTED FREE AGENT ON JULY 2, 2015.

INFIELD

95

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	34	107	17	26	4	0	1	11	0	11	25	.243	.322	.308
CAREER	301	858	120	201	34	1	20	95	15	72	204	.234	.295	.346

13 INFIELD

JAZZ CHISHOLM JR.

BATS: L • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 5-11 • **WEIGHT:** 184
BORN: 2/1/98
HOMETOWN: NASSAU, BAHAMAS
SCHOOL: LIFE PREPARATORY ACADEMY (WICHITA, KAN.)

In his first full season in pinstripes, Jazz Chisholm Jr. provided the team with a burst of power and speed that Yankees fans have rarely seen. With 31 home runs and 31 stolen bases in 2025, Chisholm became the first Yankees player to join the 30/30 club since Alfonso Soriano earned the distinction in 2003. En route to reaching career highs in home runs, RBI, walks and on-base percentage, the fan favorite brought energy to the team with his infectious spirit, while earning his second All-Star selection and first on the American League side. Entering his second season at second base, Chisholm looks to build on his 2025 Silver Slugger performance in 2026.

ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE MIAMI MARLINS ON JULY 27, 2024.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	130	462	75	112	15	1	31	80	31	58	148	.242	.332	.481
CAREER	579	2,109	316	522	79	16	108	308	130	197	648	.248	.316	.454

PAUL GOLDSCHMIDT

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-2 • **WEIGHT:** 225
BORN: 9/10/87
HOMETOWN: THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS
SCHOOL: TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY (SAN MARCOS, TEXAS)

Seven-time All-Star Paul Goldschmidt got his first taste of playing in the American League in 2025. He and the Yankees liked it so much, they'll do it again this season – his 16th. A workhorse whose last stint on the injured list came in 2014, Goldschmidt remains a tough out, especially against southpaws: His .981 OPS against left-handers last season ranked fourth in the league. The four-time Gold Glover can still pick it at first, where Ben Rice will have another opportunity to soak up all he can from one of the game's most accomplished players at the position.

ACQUIRED: SIGNED TO A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT ON FEB. 12, 2026.

INFIELD

48

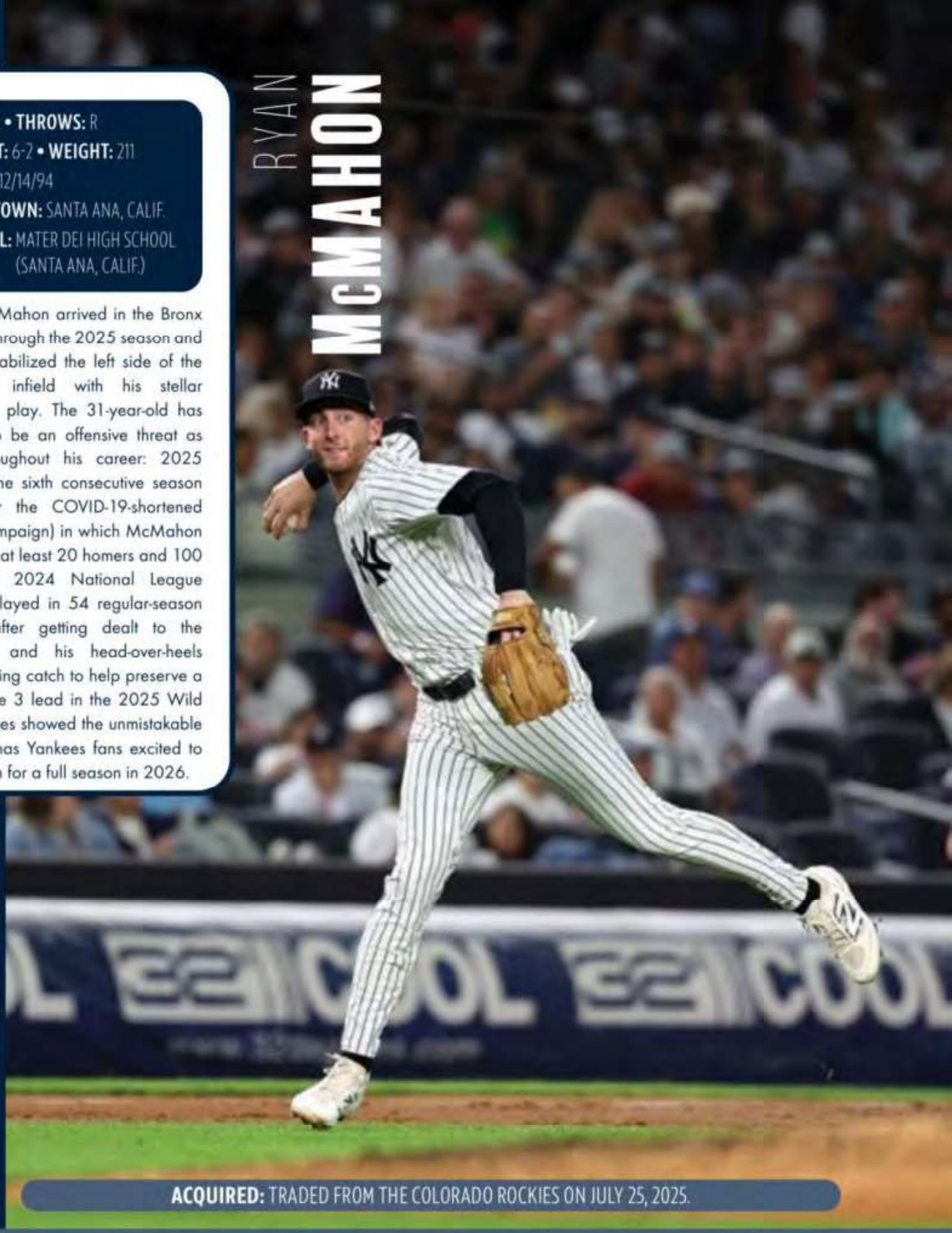
	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	146	489	76	134	31	1	10	45	5	36	100	.274	.328	.403
CAREER	2,074	7,608	1,280	2,190	477	24	372	1,232	174	1,086	1,979	.288	.378	.504

19 INFIELD

RYAN McMAHON

BATS: L • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-2 • **WEIGHT:** 211
BORN: 12/14/94
HOMETOWN: SANTA ANA, CALIF.
SCHOOL: MATER DEI HIGH SCHOOL (SANTA ANA, CALIF.)

Ryan McMahon arrived in the Bronx midway through the 2025 season and quickly stabilized the left side of the Yankees' infield with his stellar defensive play. The 31-year-old has proven to be an offensive threat as well throughout his career: 2025 marked the sixth consecutive season (save for the COVID-19-shortened 2020 campaign) in which McMahon recorded at least 20 homers and 100 hits. The 2024 National League All-Star played in 54 regular-season games after getting dealt to the Yankees, and his head-over-heels eighth-inning catch to help preserve a 4-0 Game 3 lead in the 2025 Wild Card Series showed the unmistakable grit that has Yankees fans excited to watch him for a full season in 2026.



ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE COLORADO ROCKIES ON JULY 25, 2025.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025 (COL/NYY)	154	509	62	109	23	1	20	53	3	70	189	.214	.312	.381
CAREER	1,064	3,540	469	845	175	11	144	470	31	423	1,172	.239	.322	.416

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BEN RICE

BATS: L • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-2 • **WEIGHT:** 228
BORN: 2/22/99
HOMETOWN: COHASSET, MASS.
SCHOOL: DARTMOUTH COLLEGE (HANOVER, N.H.)

After a breakout rookie season at the plate, Ben Rice is working toward establishing himself as a trusted and versatile option for the Yankees in the field as well. In addition to 36 appearances behind the plate – where he spent most of his time in the minors – in 2025, the Dartmouth product also played 50 games at first base. Add in power that made him one of seven Yankees with at least 20 home runs while also hitting balls with an average exit velocity (93.3 mph) that was among the top five percent in all of Major League Baseball, and Rice looks like the type of all-around gamer who will play an important role in the Bombers' pursuit of a 28th World Series championship.

22 INFIELD

ACQUIRED: SELECTED IN THE 12TH ROUND OF THE 2021 MLB DRAFT.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	138	467	74	119	28	4	26	65	3	50	100	.255	.337	.499
CAREER	188	619	94	145	34	4	33	88	3	70	148	.234	.319	.462

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R BUSINESS

AMED ROSARIO

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-1 • **WEIGHT:** 227
BORN: 11/20/95
HOMETOWN: SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

A former top prospect who twice played in the MLB All-Star Futures Game as a member of the Mets organization, Amed Rosario joined the Yankees at the 2025 trade deadline in a deal with the Washington Nationals. A 4-win player per bWAR as recently as 2022, when he had his best season as a member of the Cleveland Guardians, Rosario has evolved into a do-anything utility option, offering solid defense all over the field. Indeed, since his debut in 2017, Rosario has played every position other than catcher and first base. Despite receiving just 33 at-bats as a Yankee after the trade, Rosario impressed the team enough to receive a new contract for 2026.

14 INFIELD

ACQUIRED: SIGNED TO A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT ON DEC. 30, 2025.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025 (WSH/NYY)	62	181	20	50	11	0	6	23	1	7	31	.276	.309	.436
CAREER	1,004	3,688	469	1,008	168	46	69	389	110	168	760	.273	.308	.400

MAX SCHUEMANN

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-0 • **WEIGHT:** 198
BORN: 6/11/97
HOMETOWN: PORTAGE, MICH.
SCHOOL: EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIV. (YPSILANTI, MICH.)

Managers love having a dependable utility player, someone who can provide versatility on the diamond and give his skipper plenty of options on how to attack the day. With an ability to play multiple positions, Max Schuemann fits the bill. Logging more than 100 games with the A's in 2024 and 2025, Schuemann was primarily a shortstop, filling in at second base and third base as needed. However, the 20th-round pick in 2018 also provides a solid glove in the outfield, having appeared at all three positions in 2025. It's that kind of flexibility that makes Schuemann a valuable addition to the Yankees' roster.

ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE ATHLETICS ON FEB. 9, 2026.

INFIELD

30

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025 (ATH)	101	183	20	36	4	2	2	13	7	22	35	.197	.295	.273
CAREER	234	579	75	123	18	2	9	47	21	69	154	.212	.306	.297

ANTHONY VOLPE

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 5-10 • **WEIGHT:** 197
BORN: 4/28/01
HOMETOWN: WATCHUNG, N.J.
SCHOOL: DELBARTON SCHOOL (MORRISTOWN, N.J.)

From his debut on Opening Day 2023 through the end of 2025, Anthony Volpe missed just 14 total games. But when the 2025 season ended, the homegrown shortstop required surgery to repair a partially torn labrum in his left shoulder, putting him on the shelf to start this season. Yankees coaches are excited to reap the benefits that a healthy Volpe can offer when he returns to the field. Possessing a rare combination of speed and power, Volpe is the only player in team history – and one of just 12 players in major league history – to hit at least 30 homers and steal at least 50 bases over his first two seasons in the bigs.

11 INFIELD

ACQUIRED: SELECTED IN THE FIRST ROUND (30TH) OF THE 2019 MLB DRAFT.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	153	539	65	114	32	4	19	72	18	43	150	.212	.272	.391
CAREER	472	1,717	217	382	82	15	52	192	70	137	473	.222	.283	.379

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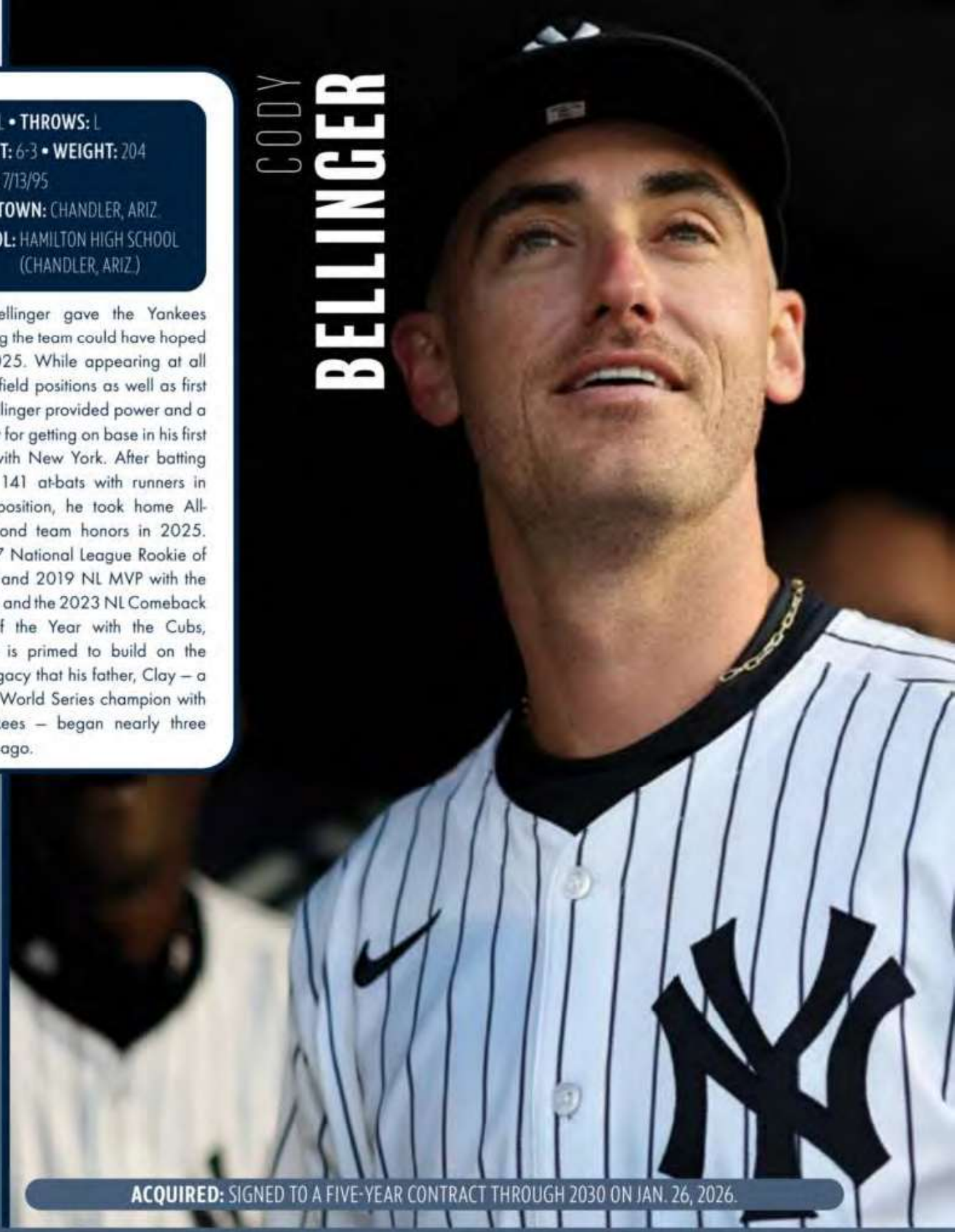
OUTFIELDERS

CODY BELLINGER

BATS: L • **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6-3 • **WEIGHT:** 204
BORN: 7/13/95
HOMETOWN: CHANDLER, ARIZ.
SCHOOL: HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL (CHANDLER, ARIZ.)

Cody Bellinger gave the Yankees everything the team could have hoped for in 2025. While appearing at all three outfield positions as well as first base, Bellinger provided power and a penchant for getting on base in his first season with New York. After batting .348 in 141 at-bats with runners in scoring position, he took home All-MLB second team honors in 2025. The 2017 National League Rookie of the Year and 2019 NL MVP with the Dodgers, and the 2023 NL Comeback Player of the Year with the Cubs, Bellinger is primed to build on the family legacy that his father, Clay – a two-time World Series champion with the Yankees – began nearly three decades ago.

35 OUTFIELD



ACQUIRED: SIGNED TO A FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT THROUGH 2030 ON JAN. 26, 2026.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	152	588	89	160	25	5	29	98	13	57	90	.272	.334	.480
CAREER	1,157	4,230	690	1,102	211	28	225	695	104	469	957	.261	.334	.483

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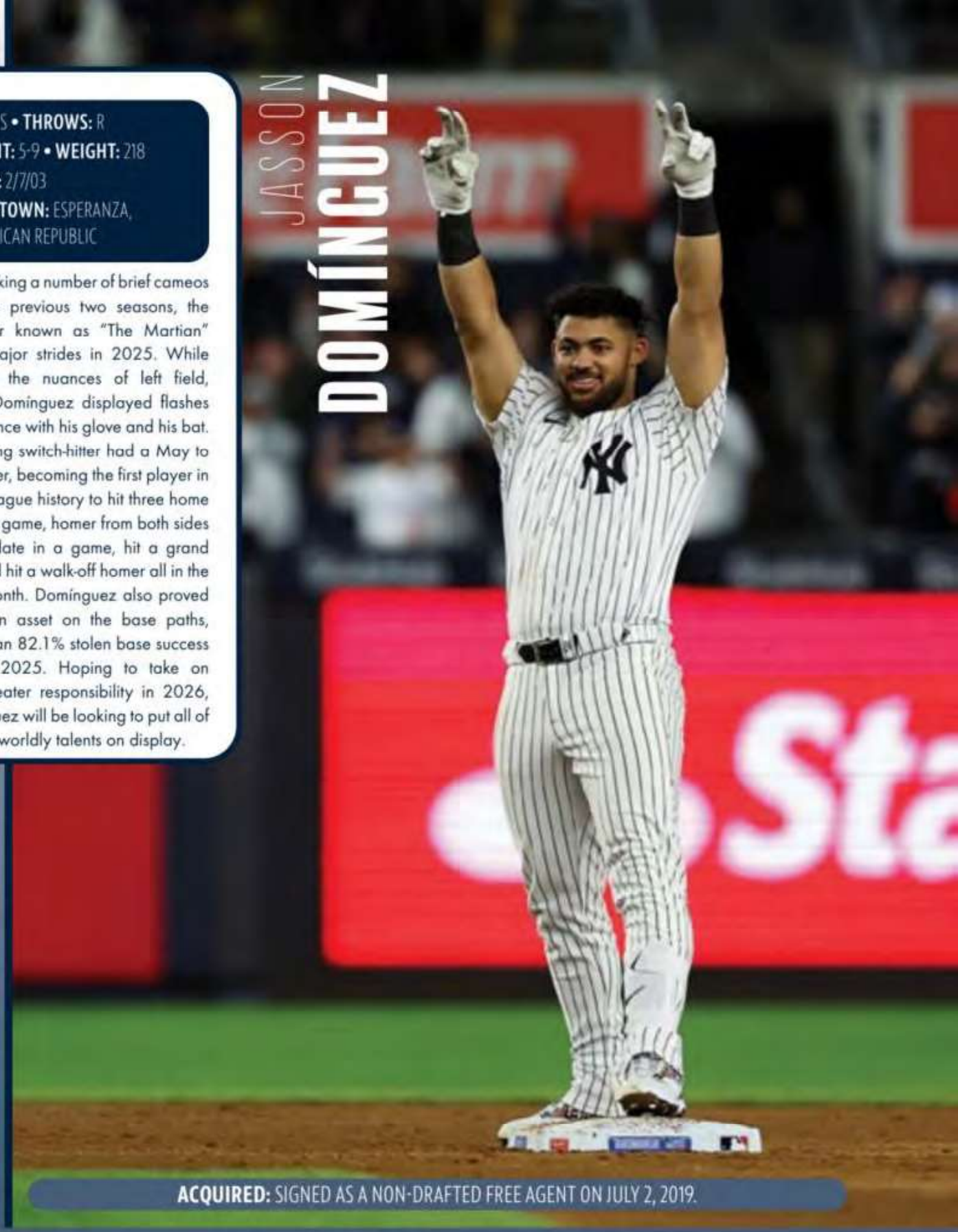
24 OUTFIELD

JASSON DOMÍNGUEZ



BATS: S • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 5-9 • **WEIGHT:** 218
BORN: 2/7/03
HOMETOWN: ESPERANZA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

After making a number of brief cameos over the previous two seasons, the outfielder known as "The Martian" made major strides in 2025. While learning the nuances of left field, Jasson Domínguez displayed flashes of brilliance with his glove and his bat. The young switch-hitter had a May to remember, becoming the first player in major league history to hit three home runs in a game, homer from both sides of the plate in a game, hit a grand slam and hit a walk-off homer all in the same month. Domínguez also proved to be an asset on the base paths, tallying an 82.1% stolen base success rate in 2025. Hoping to take on even greater responsibility in 2026, Domínguez will be looking to put all of his otherworldly talents on display.

ACQUIRED: SIGNED AS A NON-DRAFTED FREE AGENT ON JULY 2, 2019.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	123	381	58	98	18	1	10	47	23	41	115	.257	.331	.388
CAREER	149	468	72	116	20	1	16	58	29	54	142	.248	.327	.397

RANDAL GRICHUK

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-0 • **WEIGHT:** 210
BORN: 8/13/91
HOMETOWN: ROSENBERG, TEXAS
SCHOOL: LAMAR CONSOLIDATED H.S. (ROSENBERG, TEXAS)

Across 12 big-league seasons, Randal Grichuk inflicted plenty of damage on the Yankees. Now, he gets to help the Bronx Bombers chase a championship. The veteran outfielder was a non-roster invitee this spring, but his ability to sting the ball against left-handed pitching – he owns an .819 career OPS against southpaws – helped him secure a spot on the Yanks' Opening Day roster. After making the postseason with St. Louis in 2014 and '15, Grichuk has been back only once, getting swept by Tampa Bay in the 2020 Wild Card Series as a member of the Blue Jays – a drought he would love to end in 2026.

ACQUIRED: SIGNED AS A MINOR LEAGUE FREE AGENT ON MARCH 1, 2026.

OUTFIELD

34

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025 (AZ/KC)	113	272	35	62	18	1	9	27	0	17	61	.228	.273	.401
CAREER	1,360	4,494	611	1,126	268	29	212	629	27	273	1,193	.251	.298	.465

12 OUTFIELD

TRENT GRISHAM

BATS: L • **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 5-10 • **WEIGHT:** 221
BORN: 11/1/96
HOMETOWN: FORT WORTH, TEXAS
SCHOOL: RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL (NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS)

Trent Grisham's power surge in 2025 exceeded just about everybody's expectations, and his overall performance made a huge impact on his team's most recent postseason berth. After seeing action in just 76 games in 2024, the two-time Gold Glove Award winner broke out in his second season with the Yankees, slamming 34 home runs, which was *double* his previous career high. Nicknamed "The Big Sleep" for his tranquility in pressure-packed moments, Grisham consistently came through in the clutch, hitting 19 game-tying or go-ahead homers in 2025, including three grand slams. The center fielder will look to build on his rare combination of prowess in the outfield and power at the plate in 2026.

ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE SAN DIEGO PADRES ON DEC. 7, 2023.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	143	494	87	116	9	1	34	74	3	82	137	.235	.348	.464
CAREER	766	2,426	360	528	106	12	104	320	50	341	729	.218	.321	.400

SPENCER JONES

BATS: L • **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6-7 • **WEIGHT:** 240
BORN: 5/14/01
HOMETOWN: ENCINITAS, CALIF.
SCHOOL: VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY (NASHVILLE, TENN.)

Few players in Minor League Baseball put on a power display quite like Spencer Jones did in 2025. With 35 longballs across Double-A and Triple-A, the outfielder produced the second-most home runs in MiLB last season and was sixth in total bases (250). The big lefty – who has spent the vast majority of his time in the minors patrolling center field – reestablished himself as one of the Yankees' most exciting prospects by adjusting his stance and reaping immediate results: He hit .419 with 11 home runs in the month of July. Added to the 40-man roster last November, Jones is knocking on the door to the big leagues.

ACQUIRED: SELECTED IN THE FIRST ROUND (25TH) OF THE 2022 MLB DRAFT.

OUTFIELD

78

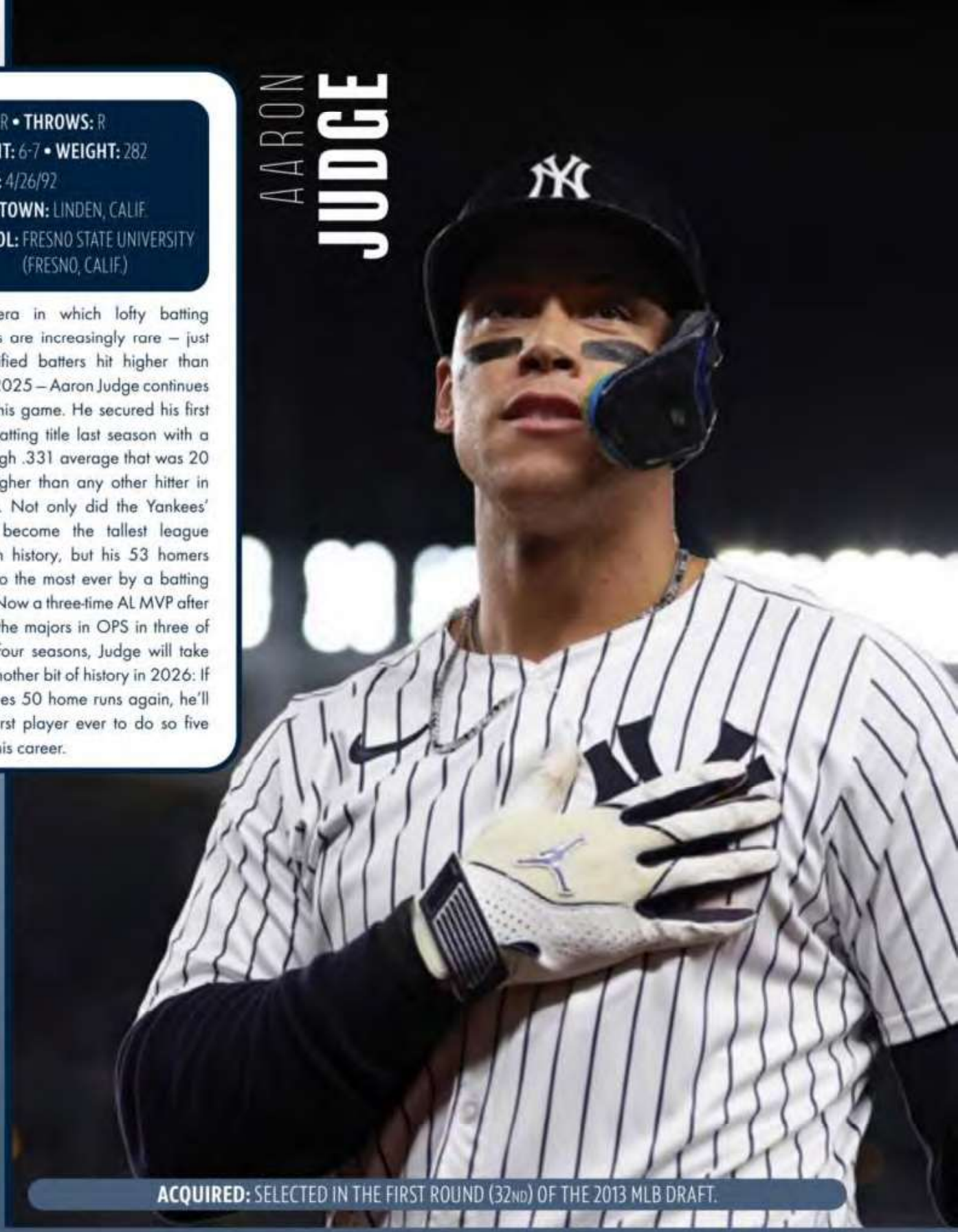
	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2025.													
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES.													

AARON JUDGE

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-7 • **WEIGHT:** 282
BORN: 4/26/92
HOMETOWN: LINDEN, CALIF.
SCHOOL: FRESNO STATE UNIVERSITY (FRESNO, CALIF.)

In an era in which lofty batting averages are increasingly rare – just six qualified batters hit higher than .300 in 2025 – Aaron Judge continues to raise his game. He secured his first career batting title last season with a career-high .331 average that was 20 points higher than any other hitter in baseball. Not only did the Yankees' captain become the tallest league leader in history, but his 53 homers were also the most ever by a batting champ. Now a three-time AL MVP after leading the majors in OPS in three of the last four seasons, Judge will take aim at another bit of history in 2026: If he reaches 50 home runs again, he'll be the first player ever to do so five times in his career.

99 OUTFIELD



ACQUIRED: SELECTED IN THE FIRST ROUND (32ND) OF THE 2013 MLB DRAFT.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	152	541	137	179	30	2	53	114	12	124	160	.331	.457	.688
CAREER	1,145	4,105	873	1,205	203	7	368	830	65	817	1,369	.294	.413	.615

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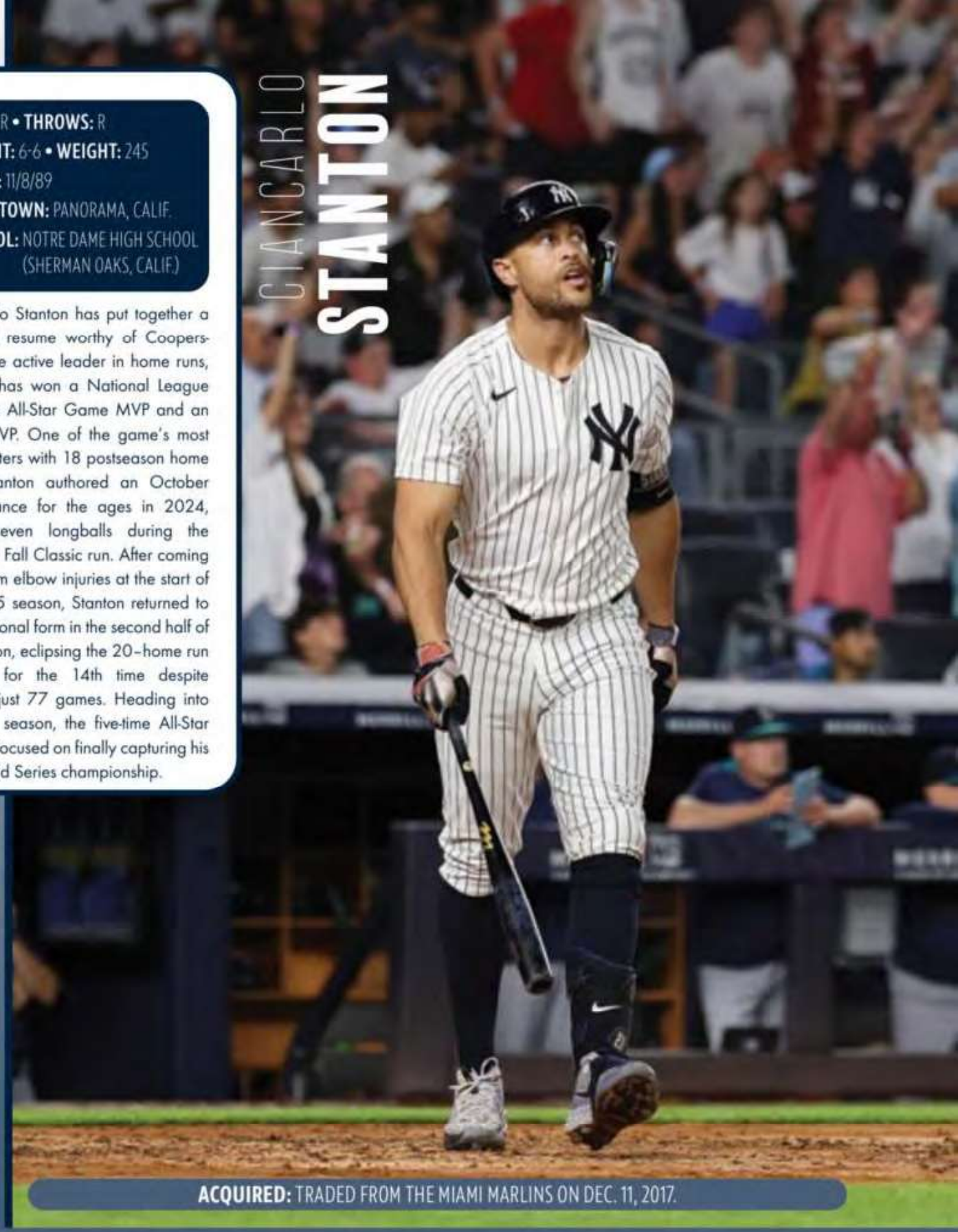
27 GIANCARLO STANTON

OUTFIELD

BATS: R • **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6-6 • **WEIGHT:** 245
BORN: 11/8/89
HOMETOWN: PANORAMA, CALIF.
SCHOOL: NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL (SHERMAN OAKS, CALIF.)

Giancarlo Stanton has put together a baseball resume worthy of Cooperstown. The active leader in home runs, Stanton has won a National League MVP, an All-Star Game MVP and an ALCS MVP. One of the game's most clutch hitters with 18 postseason home runs, Stanton authored an October performance for the ages in 2024, hitting seven longballs during the Yankees' Fall Classic run. After coming back from elbow injuries at the start of the 2025 season, Stanton returned to his traditional form in the second half of the season, eclipsing the 20-home run plateau for the 14th time despite playing just 77 games. Heading into his 17th season, the five-time All-Star remains focused on finally capturing his first World Series championship.



ACQUIRED: TRADED FROM THE MIAMI MARLINS ON DEC. 11, 2017.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2025	77	249	36	68	8	0	24	66	0	29	96	.273	.350	.594
CAREER	1,726	6,274	943	1,619	313	11	453	1,169	42	805	2,059	.258	.345	.528

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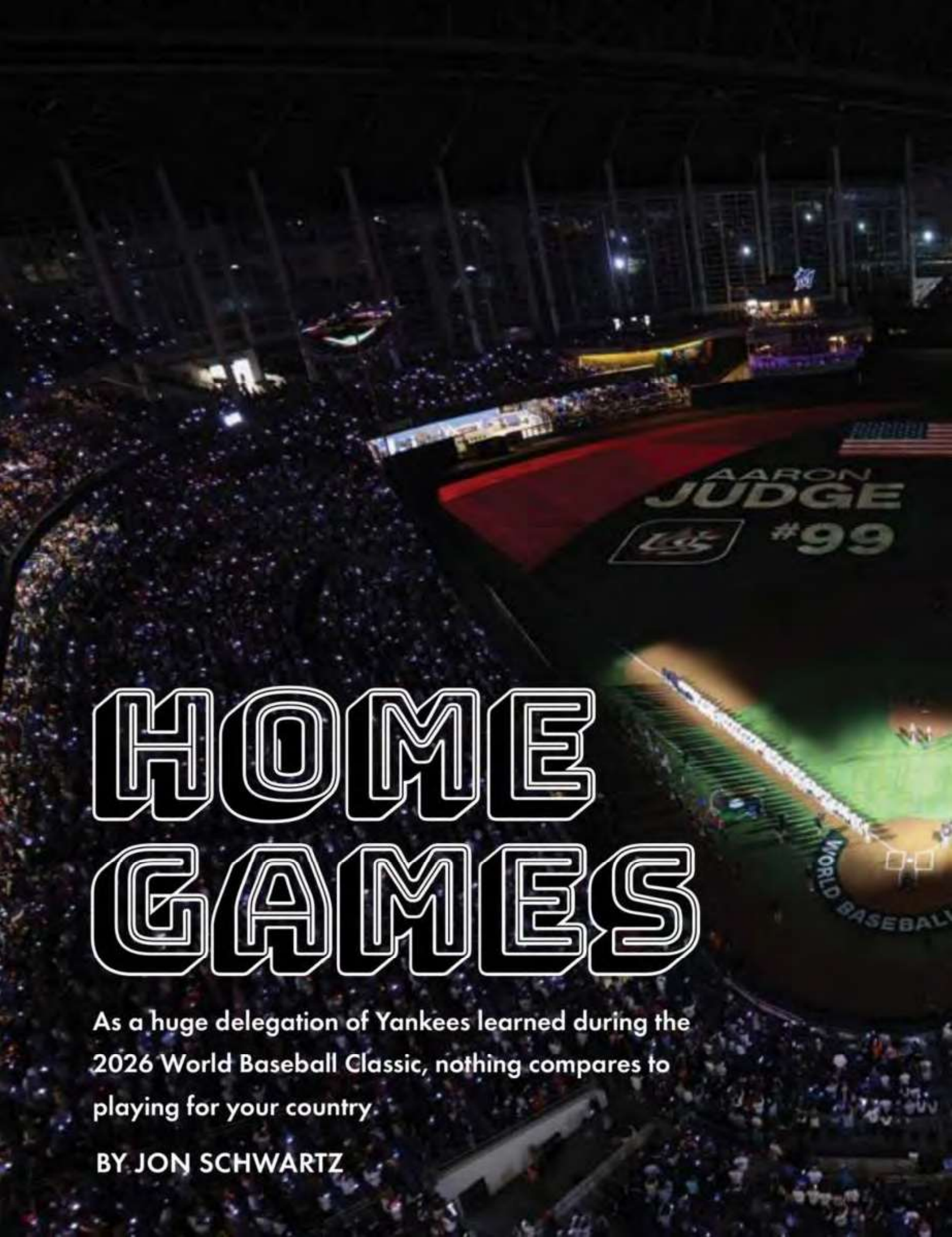

HOME GAMES

As a huge delegation of Yankees learned during the 2026 World Baseball Classic, nothing compares to playing for your country.

BY JON SCHWARTZ

loanDepot park
CLASSIC

The first, second, third and 97th thing that you notice at the World Baseball Classic is the noise. It is consuming. It compounds. It assumes an almost liquid state, sloshing around in time, meeting some moments and altogether creating others. It is unique and occasionally painful.

It is incredible.

Major League Baseball is a big business and a big nightly show. It's also a marathon. The great moments sometimes sneak up on you, and at other times there is a build-up, but the overall intensity for a championship team is still an upward ramp, climaxing at the end of October. The New York Yankees, who have enjoyed that final raucous celebration more often than any other team in baseball history, know well the emotions of a World Series celebration and the sounds it can produce — the outbursts of euphoria at home, the blissful silence on the road.

Aaron Judge has orchestrated plenty of sonic booms in his Yankees career, and in 2024, he led his squad into a World Series battle against the Dodgers. The crowds for those games — tighter and more dramatic than the five-game outcome implies — were everything a big leaguer could hope to play in front of, the type of atmosphere that makes you think you've seen it all. And there is no one who appreciates the allure of a World Series title, at once an unimaginable summit and also something of a supposed birthright for his own organization, more than Judge. He will not now or ever say or do anything to contextualize or compromise what a championship would mean to him.

But in Miami last month for the 2026 World Baseball Classic, he was at least willing to talk about the noise. The captain of Team USA, who led his compatriots and temporary teammates to a runner-up finish — losing 3-2 in the championship game for the second straight tournament, this time to the Venezuelan team — Judge acknowledged the obvious after the Americans sent home the Dominican Republic team in a semifinal game that couldn't have been louder had it been played in Santo Domingo.

"The crowd here, the crowd we had when we played against Mexico, it's bigger and better than the World Series," he said after the 2-1 win that sent Team USA into the final. "The passion that these fans have, representing their country, representing some of their favorite players, there's nothing like it, man.

"It gives me chills right now thinking about how special that was. I try to take a moment every game to look around, appreciate the crowd, appreciate the moment. It's just a blessing to go out there and do it."

The thing about noise is that there's no shortage of ways to make it. You can shout, you can crash things together, you can bang on something metal or, at the World Baseball Classic — particularly during the semifinals and championship game at loanDepot Park, where the Dominican and Venezuelan fans made the Americans feel like visitors — you could use the brass horn or the drum that you just happened to bring with you. Indeed, posted outside the stadium was a list of which instruments were permitted and which were not. (Bongos, maracas and trumpets, sure; vuvuzelas, ThunderStix or pots and pans, absolutely not.)

At the WBC, it's not enough to wear your team's jersey. Fans throughout the stands during the tournament made sure to bring along all of their countries' regalia. Although the Venezuelans [center] got to enjoy the biggest celebration, everyone in attendance had an unforgettable experience.

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It was cacophonous, the loudest thing you'd ever heard until it somehow got louder.

Judge and his fellow Yankees who participated in this year's World Baseball Classic — 16 of them, including coaches — exited the sixth edition of the global showcase with memories of a lifetime and the knowledge that they had done their part to grow the game that they love, the one that they support and are supported by. When the final pitch was thrown on March 17, it was time for the last Yankees standing — Judge, as well as his Team USA teammates David Bednar, Paul Goldschmidt and Tim Hill; Ryan Yarbrough, who pitched in the early rounds, had already left by the championship game — to return to Tampa. The regular season at that point was just over a week away. Sellout crowds in triple-decked stadiums would be the soundtrack of summer, as the Yankees set out to achieve the same goal they have every year: to win the last game in October. Surely, that would be the biggest moment of the year, the greatest achievement on the biggest stage.

But the loudest stage?

When all is said and done, the 2026 World Baseball Classic will undoubtedly lay claim to that title.

When Mark DeRosa was named manager of the U.S. team for the 2026 tournament, after leading the Americans to the championship game against Japan in 2023, one of the first things on his mind was bringing Judge along with him. "He's the definition of 'captain,' I'll tell you that much," DeRosa said before the semifinal game against the D.R.

With the Yankees, Judge's contributions go well beyond what he does on the field, even if those in-game exploits continue to defy belief. New York's players and fans are used to Judge's aura and his impact, and even though his Team USA teammates were hardly strangers, they still enjoyed the show.

"Obviously one of the best players to have played this game," said Cubs infielder Alex Bregman, a regular Yankees postseason nemesis turned fellow traveler for a few

Before the tournament reached its championship rounds, the Yankees were spread around the Western Hemisphere, working their way into shape for the season in ultra-meaningful games. [Clockwise from top]: Cruz, Chisholm, Caballero and Ausmus were among those who put in the time to ensure that the sixth World Baseball Classic would be a success by continuing the tournament's – and the sport's – upward trajectory.

weeks in March. "And I feel like he's super knowledgeable about the swing, about the game of baseball in general. So, I'm definitely not taking this opportunity for granted, and I'm trying to pick his brain as much as I possibly can about hitting or anything to do with the game of baseball."

Roman Anthony doesn't yet have the same history as Bregman against Judge or the Yankees, but as a surging talent with the Red Sox, that should come. His American teammates couldn't stop talking about the presence the 21-year-old already brings to the field. Anthony, though, turned it right back toward his once-and-soon-again rival.

"There are so many things I could say about that guy and the type of leader he is, the type of teammate he is," the outfielder said. "Obviously, we all know what he can do as a player. He's one of the best players on the planet, if not the best. ... Watching the way that he works and leads in the clubhouse, he's so selfless. You wouldn't know whether he's had a good day or a bad day. He's the same guy every day. Getting to be here with him and to learn from him and to watch the way that he goes about it, it's no surprise that he is the way that he is. For me, just being around him has been an absolute honor."

For Judge, the opportunity to rep Team USA was an opportunity too meaningful to pass up. His dedication to the Yankees' ultimate ambition is unassailable, but so, too, is his omnipresent patriotic fervor. Teammates in the Bronx know what that looks like, the way they're invited to stand on the lines alongside him, singing the national anthem and "God Bless America." As Judge walked tall and stoic onto the field before the championship game against Venezuela, he was at once the literal flagbearer at the front of the line and the young dreamer playing Wiffle ball in his backyard, imagining one day wearing the stars and stripes.

"You feel like a kid again," Judge said of the experience. "You feel like the kid laying out your jersey before you go to your first All-Star Game or something like that. It's just been a special moment. I think the coolest thing has been just being a part of this team. Every single guy in this room has been the best at their craft. Just seeing how much they want to win, how much they check their egos at the door; it doesn't matter if they're MVPs, Cy Young winners, All-Stars. Each guy checked their ego at the door and stepped in here and threw on the USA, and they're representing their country the right way. So, it's been an absolute blast. Just having the playoff atmosphere in March, it definitely gets you geared up for the season real quick."

The Yankees competing around the globe — the tournament was contested at sites in Miami, Houston, Puerto Rico and Japan — all put in the type of work not usually seen in March, when the ramp-ups are slow and cautious. Spring training games are constructed to minimize the intensity level. While players in camps around the Grapefruit and Cactus leagues were making their way to their cars in the middle innings, Bednar was firing astonishing splitters to Julio Rodriguez and Fernando Tatis Jr. in front of 36,337 ear-splitting fans, and Fernando Cruz had his chest-bursting celebration in midseason form with each of his three dominant outings for Puerto Rico. Yankees bench coach Brad Ausmus, managing Team Israel, had to answer as many questions about global politics as he did about any lineup decisions, handling them like a master. And Jazz Chisholm Jr. spoke about his Great Britain squad with the same delightful brashness fans know and love. "We plan on shocking the world," he said. "So, we don't want the people back home in Great Britain to be shocked. We want them to know that this is what we were planning to do."

It's an impossible thing, to meet the energy of a World Baseball Classic with anything other than full effort, no matter what the calendar says. Old friend Luis Severino started for the Dominican Republic against the United States and spent his March 15 outing firing high-voltage fastballs. He threw more pitches above 99 mph in 3⅓ innings than he did in all of 2025. He looked like the young, dominant Sevy that Yankees fans will remember forever.

Perhaps that's not shocking. Baseball is a time machine. At Yankee Stadium, there's a game almost every summer night, but also Monument Park. A few hours' drive northwest, there's Cooperstown, New York, with its museum and legends, some true, some true enough. Heck, in Miami, there's even a museum of bobbleheads, celebrating the beloved ballpark giveaways.

We watch baseball because of the connections it highlights. A Jasson Dominguez feat in the Bronx can be easily tagged to a similar moment from Mickey Mantle, just as Judge's power numbers evoke comparisons to Babe Ruth.

The World Baseball Classic, though, is a vision of the future. It is a baseball that is still youthful, still growing. The cultural impact of this sixth tournament felt something like 800 times more resonant than

the inaugural edition two decades ago. And it can go anywhere from here, as long as it continues to thrill fans and attract new ones. For the first time in the tournament's history, Japan didn't reach the championship round, so joining the United States, Dominican Republic and Venezuela — three bona fide baseball powers with long-established leagues and histories — was Team Italy, built on mostly American-born players who embraced the culture of the country on their sleeve while also thrilling — and creating — fans across the globe. For as much as MLB teams seek World Series titles, most of them are doing so in hopes of adding to a record book; at the World Baseball Classic, most of the participants are hoping to write entirely new ones. Baseball glory in Czechia and the Netherlands has endured from previous tournaments, and new fans are popping up in places such as Brazil and Great Britain every day. The eyeballs might have been on the Americans and Venezuela in the championship game, but the impact rests in those early round games.

As highlights go, the semifinal matchup that pitted the U.S. against the Dominican Republic was a meeting of titans, two of the best lineups ever constructed. With former Yankee Severino on the mound [opposite] firing heaters, Judge and Bednar [above] had to work hard for the win. Wells [top] honored his mother's heritage by playing for the Dominican Republic, and in the semis, he even hit a Bednar pitch over Judge's head, a delightful only-in-the-WBC quirk for teammates turned temporary rivals.

Ausmus' Israeli squad faced the Dominicans in pool play, and not surprisingly, the formidable, *platano*-powered hitters such as Juan Soto, Vladimir Guerrero Jr. and Manny Machado, among others, did their thing. Plenty of observers had deemed it the most fearsome lineup ever assembled. "It's the type of team you put together when you want to win on PlayStation, in *MLB The Show*," Ausmus said. "There's a couple other teams in this tournament that are probably similar."

Venezuela would be on that list of powers. Representing a nation of 28.5 million that adores baseball, the Venezuelans were the joyful giant-killers all tournament long. They rolled through pool play, tripping up only against the Dominicans, then knocked off Japan in the quarterfinals before dispatching the previously unbeaten Italian squad in the semis. While no Yankees were playing for the Venezuelan squad, the most prominent member of the team's 40-man roster to hail from the nation is Oswaldo Cabrera, the avatar of ecstasy. Still recovering from the injury that ended his season last May, Cabrera would have fit in perfectly with the scrappy and raucous Venezuelan champs, with their pregame dances and Little League celebrations. Throughout the championship game, the players in the dugout egged on the fans in the ballpark; it was utterly unnecessary.

The Venezuelan fans' noise was a bit different from the Dominican supporters, whose volume was constant, with pulsing beats blasting ear drums on huge plays. The American fans were there but outnumbered and certainly out-noised; your eyes were not needed to understand the results of any given play, whether the Junior Caminero homer that got the Dominicans on the board or the Gunnar Henderson and Roman Anthony blasts that pushed the Americans ahead. The truly great moments, though, came when the noise took on a manic form. In the third inning, Judge fielded a Ketel Marte single then fired an absolute cannon to third base to nail Tatis, who made the ill-advised choice to test the captain's arm. At 95.7 mph, it was faster than any throw Judge made in 2025, and considering the elbow troubles that sapped him of his throwing strength late last year, a great sign for 2026.

On an EKG, it would look like a heart attack. In the ballpark, the decibel meter was just the WBC doing what the WBC does.

The Venezuela fans were different. During the championship round games, first against Italy, then the U.S., the fans seemed almost tense out of the gates. But the volume steadily increased as both nights went along. By the ninth inning of the final, after Bryce Harper had tied the game with a titanic blast before Eugenio Suárez immediately put the Venezuelans back ahead for good, it felt borderline dangerous.

YANKEES IN THE WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC

"I was just trying to enjoy the atmosphere, the moment, everything," Harper said of his own celebration after hitting the dinger that briefly rocked the noise balance in the American fans' direction. "It was very loud in there tonight. A lot of fun. Obviously, Venezuela is a very proud place, for their baseball and sport. So happy to have the opportunity to play them tonight. They did it."

Each moment in the World Baseball Classic is important, from the hours in back rooms and on cell phones putting together a squad to the workouts to the games. It's purpose driven. Everyone in the tournament is playing for something, playing for someone. Sure, that's true of baseball in general, but it's decidedly unlike any other version of the sport you'll ever find in March. All throughout Florida and Arizona, training and coaching staffs battle to carefully mete out the natural competitive aggression, often mandating that players fight their own instincts lest their ambitions outstrip their bodies' present states.

"The job's the same," Paul Skenes said after pitching the U.S. to victory against the Dominicans, ignoring both the dictates of a calendar and also the realities of life pitching for the Pittsburgh Pirates. "The purpose of why we're there is the same. ... Yeah, there are sacrifices that you have to make. You have to do a little more in the offseason to do things a little bit differently, but easy decision, and I'm definitely glad I made that decision."

It's a strange tournament, in so many ways. The Italians, the darlings of the fortnight, leaned into cultural touchstones — not least of which being the Nespresso machine in the dugout that became a beloved part of the team's home run celebrations — and also managed to defeat the United States and briefly put the Americans' advancement out of pool play into question. The impact will go far beyond the amusing quirks, though; the players all said after their 4-2 semifinal loss to Venezuela that the greatest achievement would be a tournament in the future when they weren't invited back to represent their ancestral home, but that Italy would instead be able to field a team of players actually born in the country.

Obviously, as baseball grows, the World Baseball Classic will grow, too. The next tournament isn't yet on the calendar, but it will be soon, and the baseball tournament at the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles figures to be a highlight of the Summer Games, perhaps even featuring MLB players for the first time. The moments of elation and devastation will endure, the strange bedfellows the WBC creates remaining a beloved aspect as it continues to evolve. The quirky highs — think Austin Wells, representing his mother's Dominican heritage by playing against

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
(5-1, lost in semifinal)
Camilo Doval (pitcher)
Amed Rosario (infield)
Austin Wells* (catcher)

GREAT BRITAIN
(1-3, eliminated in pool play)
Brendan Beck (pitcher)
Jazz Chisholm Jr. (infield)
Tanner Swanson (coach)

ISRAEL
(2-2, eliminated in pool play)
Brad Ausmus (manager)
Harrison Cohen (pitcher)

PANAMÁ
(1-3, eliminated in pool play)
José Caballero (infield)

PUERTO RICO
(3-2, lost in quarterfinal)
Fernando Cruz (pitcher)
Elmer Rodríguez (pitcher)

UNITED STATES
(5-2, lost in championship game)
David Bednar (pitcher)
Paul Goldschmidt (infield)
Tim Hill (pitcher)
Aaron Judge (outfield)
Ryan Yarbrough (pitcher)

** – named to All-Tournament Team*

the Americans in the semifinals and hitting a pitch thrown by Bednar over the head of Judge — will remain, but it will be different. The only thing you can count on for sure is the noise. It won't stop.

It's about family in a lot of ways. Baseball players love talking about family, about the once-artificial bonds made real in the clubhouse. But no one — not even legacies such as Ryan Weathers or Cody Bellinger — is born a Yankee. The World Baseball Classic isn't, at heart, about the ties that are created over a spring sprint, a tournament that crescendos in stunning fashion before the players go their own ways to finish prepping for the marathon season ahead. Rather, it's the family back home, the relatives and neighbors and compatriots you represent with the name on the front of your jersey. You are, in many cases, literally playing for mom and dad.

"I feel more Dominican every day," said Wells, who was the only Yankees player named to the 12-member All-Tournament Team. "Being able to represent my family and the country, it's something that I'm never going to forget and hopefully I'll be able to have the opportunity again."

Now, there's a baseball season to play. Judge is all too familiar with giving somber recaps of seasons that ended too soon, and after the seven-game burst, he had to do it again. Only this time, he wasn't staring down months stewing over missed opportunities. About an hour after the championship game ended, the calendar read exactly one week until Opening Day. It was already time to begin again. The goal will be to ride out the changing seasons until the weather gets cold in New York and the noise in the Bronx approaches the levels heard in Miami in March.

There will be a World Series in October; maybe the Yankees will be in it. No doubt, it will be the biggest thing imaginable for the players involved. But over two weeks in March, a tournament that has grown leaps and bounds over the past two decades showed something a bit surprising and a bit wonderful. There are always bigger ambitions. There are always bigger spotlights.

Plenty of members of Team USA — during the highs of the tournament and also the lows — made seemingly offhand comments about this being the biggest stage in baseball. That would have been an insane thought 20 years ago, but in Miami, as the noise of the 2026 World Baseball Classic kept growing and the joy kept multiplying, it was hard to imagine anything more resonant.

"Each country is getting represented by the best of the best," Judge said. "I think that's the coolest thing, is little kids all around the world are getting the chance to turn on the TV and watch their favorite players represent their country, represent it with pride. And I think it's just going to continue to grow the game."

At every step of the way, the intensity at the WBC is unlike anything you'll find at a March baseball game. The fans in Miami created every kind of noise imaginable, while Judge [R] played with an October-like intensity throughout Team USA's run to the final. "I think that's the coolest thing, is little kids all around the world are getting the chance to turn on the TV and watch their favorite players represent their country, represent it with pride," he said.

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A LEGACY OF PROTECTION

YANKEES SECURITY EXECUTIVE SONNY HIGHT RETIRES AFTER DECADES OF SERVICE

BY ALFRED SANTASIERE III

After spending more than three decades in the Yankees' front office, Sonny Hight, the team's senior vice president and chief security officer, retired in January.

A key member of the organization's senior leadership since 1995, Hight joined the Yankees after 23 years with the New York City Police Department, where he began as a patrol officer in the 45th Precinct in the East Bronx and eventually became a first-grade detective in the NYPD's intelligence division.

After his retirement from the NYPD, Hight became an intelligence research specialist in the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York and also began working at Yankee Stadium in 1981 as a part-time management assistant, serving as a liaison between the Yankees and the NYPD.

Soon after he was hired on a full-time basis by the Yankees as director of stadium operations, Hight made groundbreaking changes to increase safety measures at all public events through the presence of uniformed police officers, while also managing all other day-to-day operations at the facility.

"Prior to that, the police department didn't permit officers who were off duty to work in uniform," Hight said. "With the support of George Steinbrenner, we were able to convince the NYPD of how important it was to let officers work for us in uniform. We became the first team in MLB to employ uniformed police officers."

After getting the green light to bring an estimated 30 uniformed police officers into the Stadium each night, Hight saw the number of incidents decrease by 75 percent during Yankees home games.

"They were there as a presence," Hight said. "A fan who might have otherwise caused a disruption would not do so simply because there was a police officer in or even near their section."

As a second safety measure, Hight replaced ushers — positioned at the top of every section of seats — with licensed security officers. The combination of uniformed police officers and security personnel quickly transformed the old Yankee Stadium into the safest venue in the sport.

"The Boss was concerned about security at the Stadium when he hired me," Hight said. "He always believed that you would fill the Stadium with more fans if people felt safe and secure. He gave me carte blanche to set up a security network, and I was able to use my contacts to make the Stadium a safe and enjoyable environment for all fans. I took a lot of pride in being able to do that."

Once the Yankees became the first major league team to employ off-duty officers at games, every other team followed suit, as did many other entertainment venues, including Broadway theaters.

HIGHT [L] AND AARON JUDGE

Also in the mid-1990s, Hight spearheaded the hiring of security personnel to provide protection to the team's traveling staff while on road trips. Working closely with the Commissioner's Office, Hight then pushed forward a rule that now requires every team to have a security detail traveling to road cities with its players and coaches.

"That was something that the Boss always wanted," Hight said. "Players were his biggest investment, and he wanted them to be protected. I'm proud that we were able to get that rule in place so that players around the league would have the same level of protection as ours when they're in visiting cities. I feel like I blazed a trail through Major League Baseball by initiating that."

Hight's expertise was critical in the weeks after the tragic events of 9/11, especially during the 2001 World Series when George W. Bush threw out a ceremonial first pitch at the Stadium. Hight worked around the clock with local, state and federal agencies to ensure that Yankee Stadium was *still* a place where people could enjoy baseball, and where the president could confidently take the mound in front of a packed house.

"People were skeptical about coming out to games," Hight said. "But they needed something to divert them from what had happened, and we allowed them to come out and be patriotic. It was all based on security, safety and an enjoyable environment."

While players and fans benefited from Hight's diligence and expertise, he is well known within the front office for his kindness and for an unrelenting show of compassion for the welfare of his coworkers.

"I felt that it was important to treat everyone with respect, regardless of what they did," Hight said. "They all make the Yankees what they are. I was diligent about trying to connect with everyone, and in doing so, I made so many friends."

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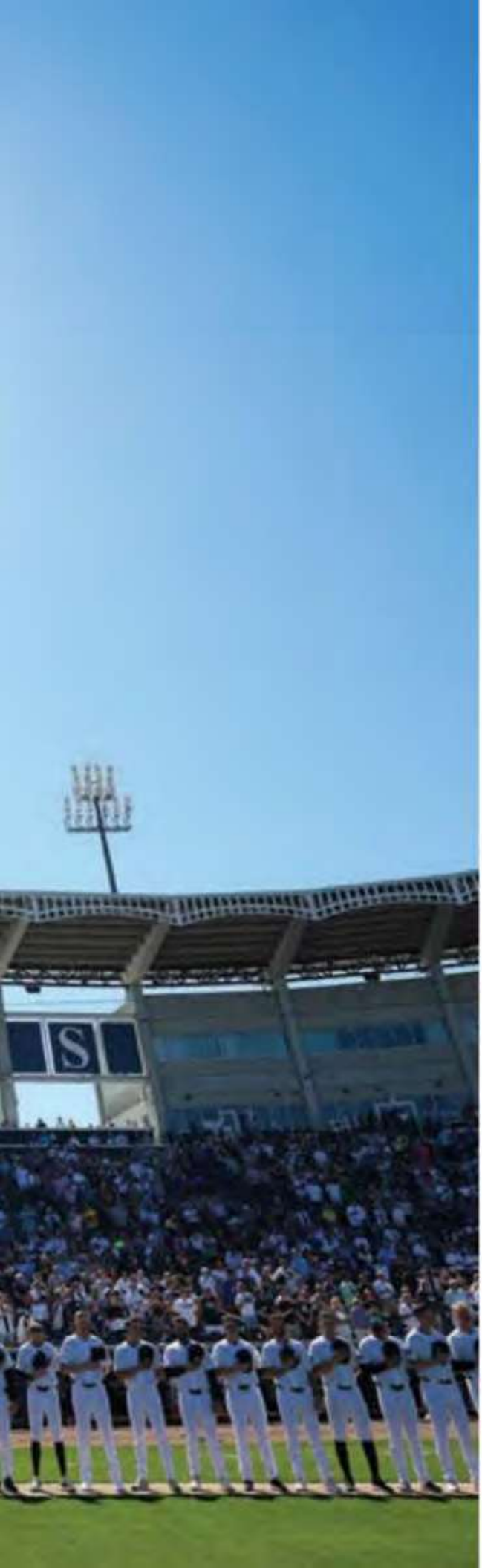


THE START OF SOMETHING SPECIAL

These snapshots from spring training show a team on a mission

The longer you've been a fan, the more natural each baseball season feels. Our bodies become adapted to the 162-game schedule, a circadian cycle that begins anew each spring. We anticipate the dopamine spike of Opening Day, which mellows out and gives way to our more inquisitive nature as we dissect this year's squad over the first weeks of the season. Our brains have been conditioned to pause at midsummer and evaluate where our team stands before we kick into overdrive for the excitement of a pennant race and postseason baseball.

The semi-dormant few months that follow always come to a glorious conclusion when we hear that beautiful phrase, "pitchers and catchers," and another cycle begins. For the Yankees, that means a pinstriped migration to Tampa, Florida, where the Bombers have trained since 1996. There, players emerge from their winter habitats ready to hone their skills and shape their bodies for the long journey ahead. Instinctually, every day spent in the Tampa sun is in preparation for cold October nights in the Bronx.

It is a scene that plays out every spring, but as you will find on the pages ahead, the Yankees' 2026 camp felt unique. Our photographers captured a joyous and harmonious team brimming with confidence, anticipating a season that is sure to bring a lot of smiles. Day after day, the players showed up to George M. Steinbrenner Field eager to get to work and continue building toward a fantastic season — and hopefully to a memorable conclusion.

Now that the regular season has arrived, we get to sit back and enjoy the fruits of their labor. We'll find out in about six months whether the work that began in Tampa leads to the ultimate payoff: a World Series championship. If it does, we can look back on those six weeks in Florida through our photographers' lenses and know that it all started at GMS Field.

SPRING TRAINING '26

RYAN WEATHERS

BEN RICE

[FROM L]: CAM SCHLITTLER, MAX FRIED, ANDY PETTITTE, CARLOS RODÓN, LUIS GIL AND GERRIT COLE

TIM HILL

DAVID BEDNAR

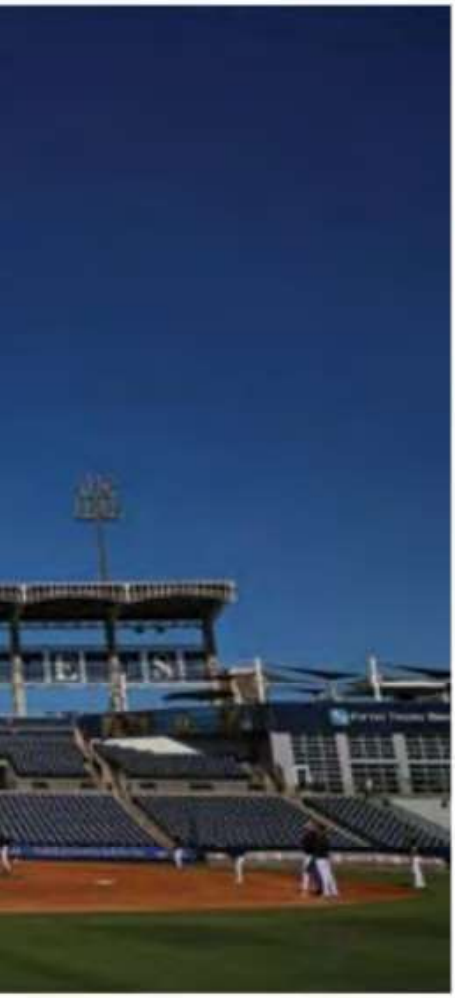
AUSTIN WELLS AND ELMER RODRÍGUEZ

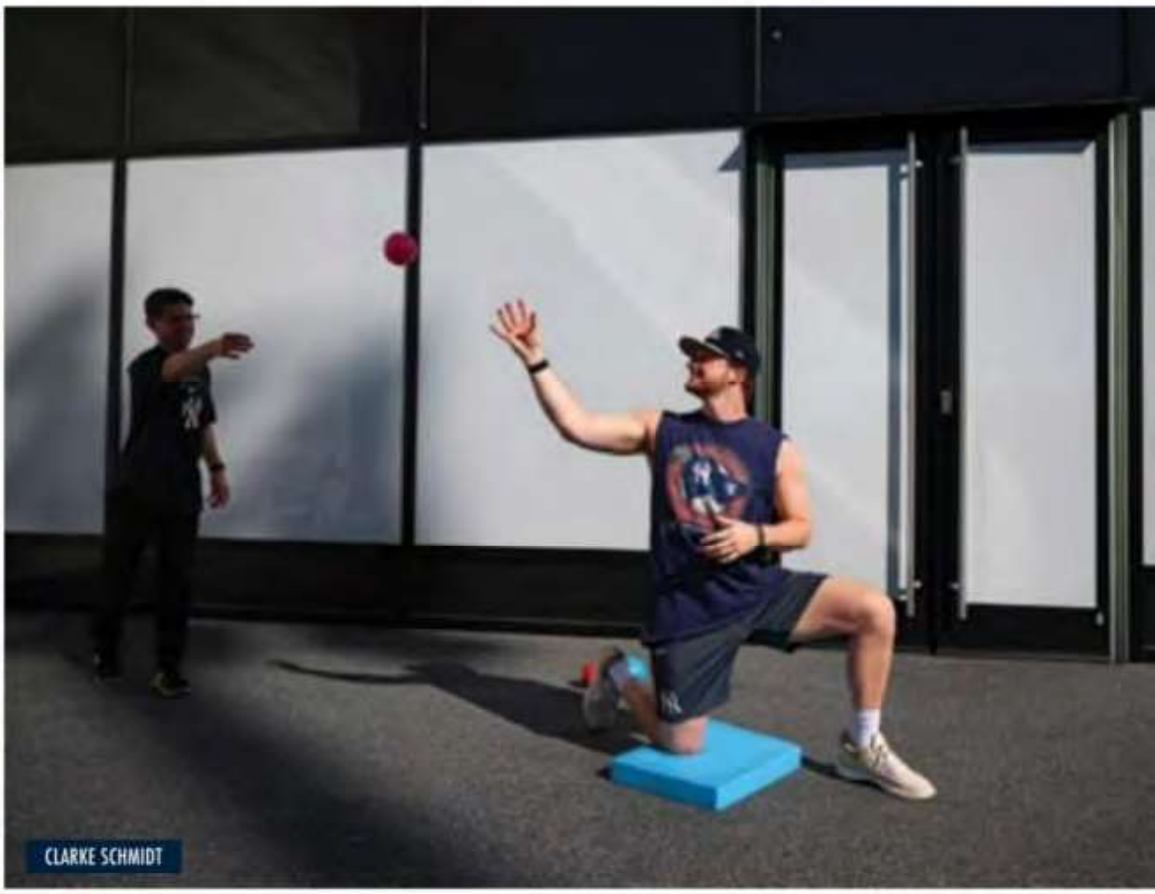
ANTHONY VOLPE

SPRING TRAINING '26

RYAN YARBROUGH

J.C. ESCARRA





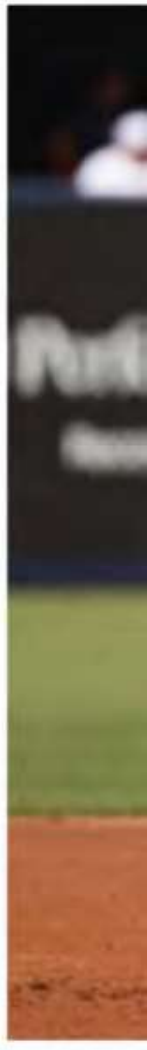
CLARKE SCHMIDT

SPRING TRAINING '26

OSWALDO CABRERA

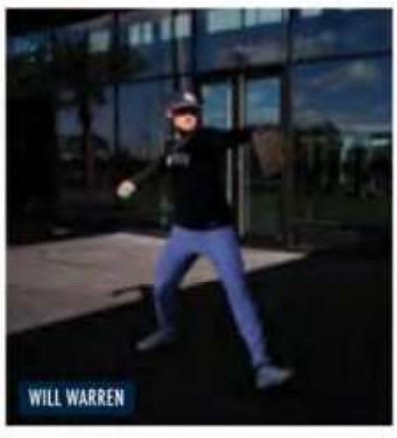
SPENCER JONES

AARON JUDGE



TRENT GRISHAM

FERNANDO CRUZ AND AARON BOONE


WILL WARREN

RYAN McMAHON

JAZZ CHISHOLM JR.

JOSÉ CABALLERO

JOE TORRE AND PAUL GOLDSCHMIDT

GEORGE LOMBARD JR.

Twist of FATE

Twenty-five years ago, the Yankees seemed destined to win a fourth straight title until a shocking ending closed the book on a golden era

BY BOB KLAPISCH

2

2001: 25th Anniversary

It's said that history is a lock to repeat itself; all you have to do is wait long enough to realize nothing is ever new. There are, however, exceptions — notably the 2001 season in the Bronx, which stands as the most memorable, tragic and heroic stretch the franchise has ever known.

Any discussion of this 25-year anniversary invites the question: Where do you even start? The 9/11 attacks at the World Trade Center that shook the world and brought sports to a halt? The public's rallying around the Yankees as a symbol of the nation's perseverance? Or the World Series, where President George W. Bush, guarded by hundreds of Secret Service agents, including one disguised as an umpire, threw out the first pitch before Game 3?

Perhaps it was the season final's image that serves as the permanent imprint: Mariano Rivera walking off the mound after surrendering the lead in the ninth inning of Game 7, handing the Arizona Diamondbacks a championship the Yankees believed was their destiny.

It's not enough to say that the sequence of events from Sept. 11 through the early hours of November were historic. They were impossible to believe.

"When people ask me about my career, I'm pretty good about remembering things," says Tino Martinez. "But *everything* about that 2001 season has stayed with me. There isn't one detail about 9/11 or the World Series that I've forgotten. Not one."

It was impossible to know in the moment that Luis Gonzalez's walk-off single against Rivera would signal the end of an era. The Yankees weren't simply foiled in their quest for a fourth consecutive ring; they would have to wait another eight years before their next championship.

That setback, though — shocking as it was — will forever be enmeshed with the events that came before it. It's impossible to ask a member of the Yankees family which memory comes first. Trying to rank them would mean that one was more significant than the others.

In the wake of the 9/11 attacks, the Yankees kept first responders front and center during the return to play. In the first game back at Yankee Stadium, and all through the end of the World Series, Clemens and other players made sure to show their appreciation for the city's true heroes.

Maybe in other seasons. Take, for example, the 1996 World Series, when Joe Girardi tripled off Greg Maddux in the decisive Game 6, turning Yankee Stadium into an open-air asylum. Not only were the Bombers on their way to a thunderous takedown of the Braves, but they were also finally ending an 18-year championship drought in the Bronx. The Stadium crowd was delirious. The decibel level was off the charts. As Paul O'Neill would later say, "I could swear the upper deck was shaking."

The same goes for the 2009 Fall Classic. Nothing symbolized the Yankees' return to glory like Hideki Matsui's two-run home run off Pedro Martinez in Game 6 against the Phillies. That was all the Bombers needed for a 7-3 win that put the finishing touches on Matsui's tour de force. He ended up with six RBI that night, earning him World Series MVP honors — the first such award for a Japanese player. The slugger almost single-handedly flattened the Phillies with a .615 average, three home runs and eight RBI in the Series.

It was a clean and uplifting story line, unlike the more complicated script in 2001.

That's why Brian Cashman struggled to identify one singularly dominant theme about the season no one could forget.

"Honestly, everything comes to mind," the Yankees' longtime general manager says. "It all sort of runs together, especially how it ended."

The journey began with great optimism. The Yankees were the team to beat in '01, having conquered the Mets in the Subway Series the year before. The Bombers were looking to become the first team to win a fourth straight World Series since their 1949–53 predecessors five-peated.

There was no reason to doubt the pedigree of any Joe Torre–led squad, although the Mariners soon established themselves as worthy rivals. Managed by former Yankee Lou Piniella and catalyzed by the arrival of Japanese sensation Ichiro Suzuki, Seattle

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took the American League by storm, winning a record 116 regular-season games.

The Yankees' 95-65 record seemed modest by comparison, but they nevertheless won the AL East by 13½ games. Led by Martinez's 34 home runs and 113 RBI, Bernie Williams' seventh straight .300-plus campaign and Roger Clemens' 20-win, Cy Young Award–winning season, the Yankees were ready for whatever October had in store.

"We were really confident about winning another championship," says Martinez. "We'd proven ourselves so many times in the playoffs, we knew we'd find a way. We were proven winners."

The path was clear and unfettered. In any other realm, nothing could get in the Yankees' way.

But then tragedy struck. On Sept. 11, the world suddenly turned to chaos.

"I flipped on the TV, and I saw what everyone else saw," Derek Jeter told reporters. "It was on every channel, so it didn't really make a difference what channel you had on."

The captain first heard about the terrorist attacks from a message left by Jorge Posada, who was at a Manhattan hospital with his son, Jorge Jr. The younger Posada was at the medical facility for a challenging cranial surgery that morning. Counting down the hours at his son's bedside, Posada saw images on TV of the destruction in Lower Manhattan.

He immediately tried reaching Jeter, although the area's jammed phone lines sent the call to voicemail. Posada asked Jeter if the Yankees' scheduled doubleheader against the White Sox (following a rainout the previous night) would be postponed.

As it turned out, the devastating attacks shut down the baseball industry for not just a night but an entire week. While a shocked nation mourned the nearly 3,000 people who had been killed, the grief was felt most acutely in New York City. The Yankees consoled Big Apple residents who were trying to make sense of the madness. But the players were dealing with their own shaken emotional state.

"I remember walking around the city with Derek, just walking around aimlessly for two or three days not knowing anything," Martinez says. "No cell phone service. You couldn't get a hold of anybody. The bridges were closed; you couldn't leave the city. And it was obviously a crazy, sad time."

A few days after 9/11, several Yankees players gathered at the Javits Center to assist emergency workers distributing food, water and medicine. New York's most famous athletes peeled away the layers of their celebrity, helping in the simplest ways.

"One family waved us over, and Bernie Williams went up to the woman and said, 'I don't know what to say, but you look like you need a hug,'" Torre recalled in a 2021 MLB.com story. "There was something for us to do, and that was to try and distract them. I never realized how important baseball was until 9/11."

Commissioner Bud Selig restarted the season on Sept. 18. The Yankees traveled to Chicago for a three-game series with the White Sox, followed by a weekend in Baltimore against the Orioles. Life had by no means returned to normal, but baseball had indeed turned into therapy. Fans showed up at the ballpark, bought hot dogs and popcorn. For three hours, they got to unplug from everything unfolding.

The new world order brought another shock wave: Everyone was suddenly pulling for the Yankees. That first week back, playing in previously hostile environments, the players couldn't believe what they were hearing.

As October slipped into November, the Yankees showed that destiny might just be on their side. Soriano's walk-off homer in Game 4 of the ALCS [opposite, bottom] was part of a monster series for the second baseman. Games 4 and 5 of the World Series both featured game-tying, two-out, two-run home runs in the ninth inning, the first from Martinez [above, L] – which put Jeter [above, R] in position to hit the winning blast in the 10th – and the second from Brosius [opposite, top], which helped send the Yankees back to Arizona needing just one win for a fourth straight championship.

"It's like people were on our side," says Andy Pettitte. "You get so used to people rooting against you when you're on the road. That's part of being a Yankee. But things changed."

"I remember the White Sox fans chanting 'USA, USA,' and hearing 'New York, New York' [at Comiskey Park]," Martinez recalls. "Everyone was really behind New York City.

"When we got back (from the road), that first day, we spent six or seven hours at a firehouse right across from where the towers were. We met the families of the first responders who had died — the wives, the kids. It put baseball in a different perspective. But it also made me realize how much people wanted us to win."

True to the new mission, the Bombers blasted their way to a fourth straight AL pennant. There was a highly competitive five-game conquest of the A's, who were poised to pull off a Division Series upset after winning the first two games. But the Yankees took the next three to secure the matchup everyone was waiting for — a date with the history-making Mariners in an ALCS showdown.

On paper, at least, Seattle was supposed to be the most dangerous opponent ever to set foot in the Bronx. But it didn't turn out that way. The Bombers took the first two games at Seattle's home park and never looked back. Powered by O'Neill and Alfonso Soriano, who both batted .400 or better in the series, Torre's crew looked unstoppable.

The Yankees were just four victories from what was increasingly seeming like fate. The only problem was that unlike the Mariners, who were no match for October pressure, the Diamondbacks were capable of going toe to toe with the Bombers.

Torre summed up Arizona thusly: "You had to be impressed with their pitching. They had the best rotation of any team we faced since the '96 Braves. They matched us."

The manager's scouting report was as accurate as it was worrisome. Curt Schilling and Randy Johnson combined to hold the Yankees to a .102 average as the Diamondbacks took the first two games by a combined score of 13-1.

The dream was in danger of coming to a crashing halt as the Series returned to the Bronx. The Yankees' only hope was the loud, savage crowd that had intimidated the Braves in 1996 — and the powerful sense of destiny.

Game 3 was pivotal, and not just for the conventional reason. President Bush decided to honor New York City by throwing out the first pitch. The Stadium, under high alert, had never hosted such a tense pregame ceremony.

"The only way to describe the feeling in the ballpark was that it was unreal, unbelievable," Pettitte says. "You're seeing cops everywhere, snipers on the rooftops, and you're wondering, 'Is there going to be another attack?' The thought definitely crossed my mind."

George Steinbrenner arrived at 3:30 p.m., five hours before the first pitch. That's when the Boss officially became a citizen of this surreal alternate universe — walking through a metal detector, scrutinized by a blank-faced federal agent.

There were more than 1,000 law enforcement personnel patrolling the area around Yankee Stadium. It was later revealed that federal, state and local agencies were involved in protecting the president. Preparations had begun a week earlier, as the NYPD, New York State Police, FBI and Secret Service turned the ballpark into a fortress. Ticketed fans didn't have to look hard to see sharp shooters poised along the upper ridges of the Stadium's façade.

What they probably didn't notice, though, was the presence of marksmen along the nearby Bronx County Courthouse. Additionally, the FDNY lightly soaked the helicopter landing zone outside the left-field wall, where the president arrived. The dirt was wetted down because the United States Marines wanted to make sure the rotation of the helicopter's blades didn't kick up a dust storm. Everything about the president's arrival needed to be perfectly clear.

The safety measures didn't end there. Above Yankee Stadium, all airline traffic was restricted by the Federal Aviation Administration, which turned over the air space to patrolling F-16s. Inside, the Stadium's executive elevators were completely shut down from before the president's arrival through the eighth inning, ceding access to the Secret Service while the president was in attendance.

Underneath the concourse, Bush was warming up for the first pitch. He did so in the old Stadium's batting cage area, which was situated a long way from the clubhouse.

"It was about the same distance from the (home) dugout to the right-field foul pole, a really long walk," Martinez says. "There

were Secret Service agents lined up on both sides of the wall, all the way down, shoulder to shoulder. They didn't make eye contact with you, didn't smile, didn't say hello. Nothing. They were very serious."

So was the man of the hour.

Jeter famously warned Bush not to bounce the first pitch — "They'll boo you," he told the commander in chief — and Martinez vividly recalls the president's rising anxiety.

"He was warming up with his jacket and (bulletproof) vest on, and you could see he was starting to sweat," Martinez says. "I wouldn't say he was happy or talking to any of us. He looked like he was concerned."

The preparations paid a dividend. With a Secret Service agent disguised as a seventh umpire on the infield — a last line of defense — Bush delivered a strike to backup catcher Todd Greene. Cashman calls it "as presidential a moment as you'll ever see in your lifetime."

The Yankees' comeback had been officially christened.

They won Game 3, 2-1, before stunning finishes in Games 4 and 5. On back-to-back nights, they were down to their last out when first Martinez and then Scott Brosius hit game-tying home runs off Diamondbacks closer Byung-Hyun Kim and the Bombers prevailed in extra innings.

Jeter himself made history. He earned the nickname Mr. November for his game-winning homer in the 10th inning of Game 4, which had begun on Oct. 31. It cleared the wall just after midnight, making him the first player to hit a World Series home run in November.

The Series shifted back to Arizona with all eyes on the surging Yankees and their two heavyweights. Pettitte could clinch the Series in Game 6. If that failed, Clemens was riding shotgun for Game 7. The crystal ball hinted at another parade up the Canyon of Heroes.

What seemed like a foregone conclusion never happened. The Diamondbacks ambushed Pettitte in a 15-2 rout in Game 6. The legendary left-hander lasted just two innings and was charged with six earned runs. The Yankees didn't know it at the time, but Arizona had detected a tell in Pettitte's delivery. He was tipping every one of his pitches.

"It's heartbreaking for me to think about that, even now," Pettitte says. "I feel like I cost us the Series, losing like that, and I had already lost Game 2. It was very tough for me to get over that. But looking back, I knew something was wrong. I was making great pitches, and I couldn't put anyone away."

The Yankees had one last chance in Game 7. History tells us the stars were aligned, just as they had been so many times in the past — a ninth-inning lead, Rivera on the mound, the world's deadliest cutter in the hands of a man who refused to yield to pressure.

The final moments, though, are embedded in the consciousness of Yankees fans young and old, casual or fanatic. Everyone watched in disbelief as Rivera surrendered the season-ending single to Gonzalez, capping Arizona's shocking comeback.

The Diamondbacks' 3-2 victory did more than turn Bank One Ballpark into a madhouse. Unbeknownst to anyone in the somber visiting clubhouse, it signified the beginning of the end of the Yankees' most recent dynasty. O'Neill and Brosius both retired. Jason Giambi was signed to replace Martinez. The next championship parade wouldn't come until 2009, after The House That Ruth Built had been demolished.

Rivera went from locker to locker in the visitors' clubhouse, apologizing to his teammates for the most traumatic blown save of his career. "I feel bad, but I'm not perfect. I did the best I could," he said quietly. "I made every pitch I wanted to. I made good pitches, but they just hit them."

To a man, the Yankees refused to accept Rivera's apology. They instead made peace with the outcome, painful as it was.

"Mariano didn't have anything to be sorry for," Martinez says. "He did the best he could. We played hard, and we left it all on the field."

In the end, it was still a magical run, an emotional roller coaster of euphoria and utter devastation, symbolic of what the nation was enduring. A city and a country needed something to root for, and the mighty Yankees — even in defeat — proved a surprising cause.

"It was an amazing season which I'll never forget," says Martinez. "But it just wasn't meant to be."

The House That Ruth Built hosted more than its share of memorable October moments, but few felt as significant as Game 3 of the 2001 World Series. While security blanketed Yankee Stadium, Bush delivered a perfect strike that was as symbolic as it was ceremonial. "As presidential a moment," Cashman says, "as you'll ever see in your lifetime."

Evan Trost has a love for the outdoors, a fascination with electronics and computer technology, four beautiful children and Tourette Syndrome.

Dr. Evan Trost is a dedicated and committed M.D. specializing in family medicine and palliative care in Phoenix, Arizona. Patients – especially kids – spark to Evan's openness and compassionate bedside manner. Evan also happens to be one of the hundreds of thousands of Americans to have been born with Tourette Syndrome – an often misdiagnosed and misunderstood neurological disorder that's a lot more common than you think. You may know or have seen someone with TS symptoms – they sometimes make sudden, often strange, physical movements or vocal sounds that they just can't help. People with TS are not psychologically impaired, less intelligent, obstinate or purposefully disruptive. And contrary to what you may have heard, fully 85 to 90 percent are *not* prone to using inappropriate language. Research continues to explore the causes of Tourette Syndrome, and hopefully, the day will come soon when we can find better treatments and the cure. But until then, if you come across someone who has TS, please remember that, like Dr. Evan Trost, that person has a whole lot more.

Evan Trost, M.D.
Family Medicine, Hospice and Palliative Care

Tourette Association of America

42-40 Bell Boulevard Suite 507
Bayside, NY 11361
718-224-2999 tourette.org

BROADCASTERS

EMMANUEL BERBARI
WFAN

DELLIN BETANCES
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DAVID CONE
YES Network

JACK CURRY
YES Network

TODD FRAZIER
YES Network

JOE GIRARDI
YES Network

MICHAEL KAY
YES Network

BOB LORENZ
YES Network

MEREDITH MARAKOVITS
YES Network

NANCY NEWMAN
YES Network

PAUL O'NEILL
YES Network

ADAM OTTAVINO
YES Network

WILLIE RANDOLPH
YES Network

RICKIE RICARDO
WADO

FRANCISCO RIVERA
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RYAN RUOCCO
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YANKEE STADIUM INFO GUIDE

CASHLESS TRANSACTIONS
To reduce and avoid contact between cash and food/retail handling, all Yankee Stadium retail food and beverage locations will be cashless and will only accept credit/debit cards, advanced purchases and touchless payments. Additionally, mobile ordering and pick up through Uber Eats will be available at select stands on the Field, Main and Terrace levels. For Guests who wish to pay with cash, cash conversion stations (i.e., reverse ATM machines) will be available in the Great Hall at Section 110, at Section 128, at Section 223 and at Section 320C, issuing no-fee, prepaid debit cards starting at $1 minimum denomination. The prepaid debit card can be used at any food or retail location inside the Stadium. Any remaining funds left on the prepaid debit card can be used anywhere that Mastercard is accepted.

ENTRY AND CARRY-IN POLICY
NOTICE: For the safety of every Guest, all persons specifically consent to and are subject to metal detector and physical pat-down inspections prior to entry. Any item or property that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall not be permitted into the Stadium. Any person that could affect the safety of the Stadium, its occupants or its property shall be denied entry. For security reasons, each Guest is permitted to bring into Yankee Stadium only one MLB-compliant bag — presently defined by Major League Baseball as soft-sided and no larger than 16 inches by 16 inches by 8 inches — and only one smaller-sized soft-sided personal item (e.g., a handbag, clutch, tote or plastic grocery bag). All hard-sided bags and containers are strictly prohibited. All MLB-compliant bags, personal items and their contents are subject to a physical search and/or X-ray screening before they are permitted into the Stadium. **Please note: There is no storage area for any items at Yankee Stadium.** For more information regarding the entry and carry-in policy, please visit yankees.com. Re-entry is not permitted. Please note security regulations may be amended at any time.

EXIT/RE-ENTRY
Guests are not permitted to leave Yankee Stadium and return on the same ticket. Re-entry will be permitted only in the case of an emergency. In the event of an emergency, please see security personnel prior to exiting the Stadium.

GAME-DAY MESSAGES
Place a message on the Pepsi Fan Marquee in center field or on the video board in left-center field during Yankees home games. For more information and to order a message, please visit yankees.com/scoreboard.

GATE LOCATIONS AND OPENINGS
Yankee Stadium has four gate locations for entry and exit:
Gate 2, adjacent to left field: Enter via Jerome Avenue and East 164th Street
Gate 4, behind home plate: Enter via East 161st Street and Macombs Dam Bridge
Gate 6, adjacent to right field: Enter via East 161st Street and River Avenue
Gate 8, adjacent to center field: Enter via River Avenue and 164th Street

For Yankees games, gates will open 90 minutes prior to the scheduled first pitch.

For New York City FC matches, gates will open 90 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the match. For the Bad Boy Mowers Pinstripe Bowl, gates will open two hours prior to the scheduled start time of the game, subject to change.

Please note that gate openings for all other public events will be announced as the date(s) for those events approach. Gate openings are subject to change during inclement weather and for special events, doubleheaders, Opening Day, the Old-Timers' Day game and postseason play or at Yankee Stadium management's discretion. There may be a point during a game, match or event when Guests may only enter through the Yankee Stadium Lobby, adjacent to Gate 2.

HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES
Yankee Stadium's health and safety requirements are constantly changing in line with local and national directives. Please check www.yankees.com/updates for the most up-to-date information.

LOST AND FOUND
Anyone wishing to turn in a found item or inquire about a lost item may do so at the Guest Relations Booth, adjacent to Gate 6 in the Great Hall, or at the Yankee Stadium Lobby, adjacent to Gate 2. To inquire via phone, please call (718) 579-4413. Lost items turned in to Yankee Stadium management will be held at the Stadium for 10 days before being relinquished in accordance with New York State law.

MONUMENT PARK
Monument Park, located in center field, recognizes legends who have appeared at Yankee Stadium over the years. On game days, it opens with the gates and remains accessible for Guests' enjoyment until 45 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the game (subject to strict capacity limitations). Please note that the line to Monument Park may close earlier than the Park itself. Signage directs Guests to Monument Park. Yankee Stadium Team Members are also available to assist Guests.

NEW YORK YANKEES MUSEUM presented by BANK OF AMERICA
Ticketed Guests (subject to capacity limitations) can enjoy the museum free of charge when gates open until the end of the eighth inning for Yankees home games. Guests can also experience the museum as part of Yankee Stadium tours.

NURSING MOTHERS
A mother may nurse her child in any public location where she is comfortable. Nursing mothers seeking more discreet accommodations are welcome to use the dedicated space in the Kids Clubhouse, subject to availability.

SMOKING POLICY
Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes, is prohibited in Yankee Stadium. There are no designated smoking areas, and re-entry is prohibited. The use of smokeless tobacco is also prohibited. Violators face immediate ejection without refund and/or possible revocation of season tickets and/or future ticket privileges.

TITAN HST
Guests can confidentially text security and guest relations questions and concerns by texting SOS NYY to 848-261 (message and data rates may apply).

YANKEE STADIUM EVENTS
Make our history part of yours. Yankee Stadium is the perfect venue to host special occasions, corporate events and photo shoots on the sport's grandest stage. For more information, please visit yankees.com/events, call (646) 977-8400 or email events@yankees.com.

YANKEE STADIUM SUITES
For information about suites at Yankee Stadium, please visit www.yankees.com/suites.

YANKEE STADIUM TOURS* presented by
Tour Yankee Stadium and absorb the rich history of the 27-time World Series champions. Visit iconic locations such as Monument Park, where the Bronx Bombers' greatest legends are enshrined. Discover the Yankees' heroes, milestones and winning tradition inside the New York Yankees Museum presented by Bank of America. See how Yankee Stadium offers experiences and events extending beyond the baseball field. Each tour is led by one of our knowledgeable tour guides.

For scheduling and ticket information, please visit www.yankees.com/tours, call (646) 977-TOUR, or email tours@yankees.com.

*The Yankees reserve the right to cancel all or part of any tour. If a tour date and/or time is canceled, all tickets will be refunded. All tour dates, times, locations and routes are subject to change without notice.

RINGTHEBELL.TV on Archive.org

PLEASE NOTE THAT PROTECTIVE NETTING OF VARYING HEIGHTS IS LOCATED BETWEEN SECTION 011 ON THE FIRST BASE/RIGHT-FIELD SIDE OF YANKEE STADIUM AND CONTINUES TO SECTION 029 ON THE THIRD BASE/LEFT-FIELD SIDE OF YANKEE STADIUM, WHICH IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN THE YANKEES' DISCRETION.

FOR INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

ticketmaster®

yankees.com | yankeesbeisbol.com

FOR TICKET INFORMATION, INCLUDING PRICING, PLEASE VISIT YANKEES.COM OR CALL (212) YANKEES.

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Yankee Stadium is located at One East 161st Street in the Bronx and is accessible from the Major Deegan Expressway (Interstate 87) at the following exits:

Northbound I-87: Exit 4 (East 149th Street/145th Street Bridge) and Exit 5 (East 161st Street/Macombs Dam Bridge)

Southbound I-87: Exit 6 (East 153rd Street/River Ave.) and Exit 5 (East 161st St./Macombs Dam Bridge)

For drivers using satellite navigation, please enter the following address:
One East 161st Street, Bronx, New York.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

By Subway: The No. 4 train (East Side) and the D train (Sixth Avenue) make stops at the 161st Street/Yankee Stadium subway station, located on East 161st Street and River Avenue. B train (Sixth Avenue) service is also available, but only on weekdays. For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

By Bus: Several New York City bus lines provide service to the Stadium. The Bx6 and Bx13 buses stop at East 161st Street and River Avenue; the Bx1 and Bx2 buses stop at East 161st Street and the Grand Concourse, a short walk from the Stadium; and the BxM4 stops at the Grand Concourse and East 161st Street (northbound) and East 158th Street (southbound). For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

By Train: Metro-North offers train service to the Stadium. For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

PREPAID PARKING*

The Yankees neither control nor operate the parking lots and garages surrounding the Stadium and are not responsible for setting parking lot rates, refund policies, rules and/or procedures. City Parking was granted these rights, including responsibility for establishing and controlling parking rates, refund policies, rules and/or procedures, by New York City. Prepaid individual-game parking must be obtained from City Parking. For more information, please visit City Parking at www.cityparking.nyc or call City Parking at (718) 588-7817. For Yankees Season Ticket Licensees, full- and partial-season parking packages can be purchased at a discount off the game-day parking rate. Licensees should contact their Yankees representative at (212) YANKEES for more information.

*Visit www.cityparking.nyc or call (718) 588-7817 throughout the season for lot availability.

The number of innings in a regulation game shall be determined by Major League Baseball and may be shortened in accordance with Major League Baseball rules. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that nine (9) innings will be played in any regulation game.

The number of games in a regular season shall be determined by Major League Baseball. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that a regular season will be comprised of eighty-nine (81) home games.

Game times listed are subject to determination by, among others, MLB and its television partners.

For the 2026 regular season, "Premium Games" are the following Games: (a) Opening Day home game; (b) Old-Timers' Day game; (c) all home games against the Boston Red Sox, Los Angeles Dodgers, Atlanta Braves, and New York Mets; (d) select home games on June 30, 2026 and July 4, 2026; and (e) any other game the Yankees determine (in its sole and absolute discretion) to be a Premium Game.

All individual game ticket prices are subject to variable and dynamic pricing, which provide fans with more price options based on changing factors that affect market demand.

In no event will the Yankees be liable to the ticket holder and/or ticket purchaser for any direct, indirect, consequential, exemplary, incidental, special or punitive damages or for lost profits, revenues or business opportunities even if the Yankees have been advised of the possibility of such damages.

Be advised that the Yankees reserve the right to take appropriate action against individuals who fraudulently obtain wheelchair accessible and/or companion seats, including, without limitation, ejection and legal action.

Tickets may not be used for advertising, promotion (including contests, giveaways, or sweepstakes), charitable, trade or commercial purposes without the express written consent of the Yankees.

WARNING: For the safety of everyone in Yankee Stadium, all Guests must stay alert and be aware of their surroundings at all times, as during all batting practices, fielding practices and warm-ups and throughout the course of all baseball games and the baseball game experiences, hard-hit baseballs and bats and fragments thereof may be thrown or hit into the stands, concourses, walkways, concessions areas, Monument Park and all other publicly accessible areas within Yankee Stadium. Further, Guests concerned with their original ticketed location by reason of the foregoing should, at any time before or during the baseball game or the baseball game experiences, proceed to the Yankee Stadium Ticket Windows at the home plate end of the Great Hall across from the Yankees Team Store, however, please remember that: (a) any requested relocation is subject to availability; (b) any alternate seat or standing location may be in a section and/or level of Yankee Stadium and/or within a price category that is not in the same section and/or level and/or price category of the Guests' original ticketed location, regardless of their original ticketed location; and (c) any Guest requesting relocation is responsible for paying the incremental price increase, if any, of the ticket price for the available alternate location. Relocation to a seat or standing location at a lower price than the price of the original ticketed location will not result in a refund or credit.

WARNING: Guests may not transmit or aid in transmitting any photographs, images, videos, audio, livestreams or other accounts or descriptions (including play-by-play data), whether text, data or visual, in any media, now known or hereafter developed, of all or any part of the game or related events, without the express written consent of the Yankees.

NOTICE: For the safety of every Guest, all persons specifically consent to and are subject to: (a) being screened by metal detectors; (b) bag/clothing inspections; and (c) physical pat-down inspections prior to entry. Any item or property that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall not be permitted into Yankee Stadium. Any person that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall be denied entry.

NOTICE: The Yankees reserve the right, with or without refunding any amount paid by the ticket holder, to refuse admission to and/or eject any person who: (a) is or appears to be impaired; (b) conceals alcohol, illegal substances and/or other prohibited items while attempting to enter Yankee Stadium; (c) acts in a manner that is unruly, disruptive or illegal; (d) uses derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures; (e) displays and/or wears and fails to cover obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing; (f) exposes him/herself; (g) otherwise violates the Yankee Stadium Guest Code of Conduct; (h) interferes with any ball in the field of play or any sports or event participant attempting to make a play on any batted, pitched or thrown baseball; or (k) violates any law. Ticket holders acknowledge and agree that the Yankees' ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing does not violate their right to free speech and/or expression and that such time, place and manner of the restrictions are reasonable to maintain a family-friendly atmosphere for minors, ensure the safety of all Guests and sports or event participants, and preserve the enjoyment of the game or event for all Guests. In addition, ticket holders further acknowledge and agree that by entering the Stadium, they hereby consent to the ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing and waive, to the fullest extent they may legally and effectively do so, any objection they may now or hereafter have to such ban and the penalties that the Yankees may impose for any violation of the same.

CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

FIELD LEVEL

PLEASE NOTE THAT PROTECTIVE NETTING OF VARYING HEIGHTS IS USED IN THE STADIUM FROM SECTION 011 TO BEHIND HOME PLATE TO SECTION 029.

CONCESSIONS AND MERCHANDISE OFFERINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT YANKEES.COM FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

- **FIRST BASE TEAM STORE** — SECTIONS 154A–154B
- **MONUMENT PARK STORE** — SECTION 103
- **YANKEES MERCHANDISE** — SECTIONS 130 & 135 & PEPSI FOOD COURT
- **YANKEES TEAM STORES** — GATE 6 & BEHIND HOME PLATE

DESTINATIONS

- **CUTWATER LOUNGE** — SECTIONS 011-013
- **FORD FIELD MVP CLUB** — BEHIND HOME PLATE
- **HARD ROCK CAFE YANKEE STADIUM** — GATE 6
- **LEGENDS SUITE CLUB** — ADJACENT TO GATE 4
- **YANKEES SPORTS LOUNGE** — SECTION 134
- **MONUMENT PARK** — CENTER FIELD
- **PEPSI LOUNGE** — CENTER FIELD
- **RYAN LOUNGE** — SECTIONS 027A-029
- **YANKEES STEAKHOUSE (VIA ELEVATOR)** — ABOVE HARD ROCK CAFE AT GATE 6

AMENITIES

- ATM
- CASH TO CARD KIOSK
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

- **99 BURGER** — SECTION 107
- **BEER** — SECTION 110
- **BENIHANA** — SECTION 127
- **BLUE BUNNY** — SECTION 125
- **BOBBY'S BURGER PALACE** — SECTION 132
- **BROOKLYN DUMPLING SHOP** — SECTION 107
- **CHRISTIAN PETRONI'S PARM TO TABLE** — SECTION 105
- **COCKTAIL BAR** — PEPSI FOOD COURT
- **COLONY GRILL** — SECTION 125
- **FUKU** — SECTION 109
- **GARLIC FRIES** — SECTION 108
- **GLUTEN-FREE GRILL** — GREAT HALL
- **KING'S HAWAIIAN GRILL** — SECTION 115
- **KOSHER*** — GREAT HALL
- **LOBEL'S** — SECTION 132
- **MIGHTY QUINN'S** — SECTION 134
- **MISTER SOFTEE** — SECTIONS 105, 107, 110, 112, 125 & 132
- **NATHAN'S FAMOUS** — SECTION 127
- **NUCHAS** — SECTION 107
- **SABRETT** — SECTION 110
- **STREETBIRD** — SECTION 112
- **UBER EATS PICKUP** — SECTIONS 107, 112, 115, 125, 127A, 132 & 134
- **YANKEE STADIUM GRAND SLAM SHAKES** — SECTIONS 112 & 125

*NOT AVAILABLE DURING FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY GAMES/EVENTS OR DURING GAMES/EVENTS THAT FALL ON CERTAIN RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

MAIN/BLEACHERS LEVELS

CONCESSIONS AND MERCHANDISE OFFERINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT YANKEES.COM FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

- NEW ERA TEAM STORE — BEHIND HOME PLATE
- YANKEES MERCHANDISE — SECTION 236

DESTINATIONS

- DELTA SKY360° SUITE — SECTIONS 218A-222
- FRESHDIRECT TERRACE — ADJACENT TO SECTION 238
- LEGACY CLUB BOOTH — SECTION 221
- MICHELOB ULTRA CLUBHOUSE — ADJACENT TO SECTIONS 207 & 208
- NEW YORK YANKEES MUSEUM — PRESENTED BY BANK OF AMERICA — ADJACENT TO SECTION 210
- STELLA ARTOIS LANDING — ADJACENT TO SECTION 232A & 232B
- YANKEES FAN ZONE — BEHIND HOME PLATE
- TOYOTA TERRACE — ADJACENT TO SECTION 202

AMENITIES

- CASH TO CARD KIOSK
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

- BEER — SECTIONS 206 & 226
- BROOKLYN DUMPLING SHOP — SECTION 213 & BLEACHERS
- COCKTAILS — SECTIONS 206 & 226
- FUKU — SECTION 205
- THE HALAL GUYS — BLEACHERS
- HIGHLANDERS — SECTION 233
- KONA BLEACHER BAR — SECTION 236
- KOSHER* — SECTIONS 214A & 228
- MAC TRUCK NYC — SECTION 223
- MASTERCARD BATTER'S EYE DECK — BLEACHERS
- MISTER SOFTEE — SECTIONS 205, 213, 217, 224, 232 & BLEACHERS
- NATHAN'S FAMOUS — SECTION 225
- NUCHAS — SECTION 232
- PREMIO SAUSAGE — SECTION 232 & BLEACHERS
- TRIPLE PLAY GRILL — SECTIONS 201 & 213
- TRIPLE PLAY GRILL/ GARLIC FRIES — SECTION 205
- UBER EATS PICKUP — SECTIONS 200B, 205, 213 & 224

*NOT AVAILABLE DURING FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY GAMES/EVENTS OR DURING GAMES/EVENTS THAT FALL ON CERTAIN RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

TERRACE/GRANDSTAND LEVEL

CONCESSIONS AND MERCHANDISE OFFERINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT YANKEES.COM FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

YANKEES MERCHANDISE
SECTIONS 308 & 330

DESTINATIONS

BUDWEISER PARTY DECKS
SECTIONS 311 & 328

JIM BEAM SUITE LOUNGE
BEHIND HOME PLATE

KIDS CLUBHOUSE
ADJACENT TO SECTION 310

AMENITIES

- CASH TO CARD KIOSK
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

BEER
SECTIONS 312 & 322

CRAFT BEER
SECTION 320

KING'S HAWAIIAN GRILL
SECTION 334

NATHAN'S FAMOUS
SECTION 313

BLUE BUNNY
SECTION 318

FUKU
SECTION 331

KOSHER*
SECTION 322

TRIPLE PLAY GRILL
SECTIONS 321 & 326

COCKTAILS
SECTION 321

THE HALAL GUYS
SECTION 321

LOBEL'S
SECTION 321

UBER EATS PICKUP
SECTIONS 305, 318, 321, 324 & 331

COLONY GRILL
SECTION 310

HIGHLANDERS
SECTIONS 305, 311, 318 & 325

MISTER SOFTEE
SECTIONS 305, 312, 318, 320, 321 & 324

*NOT AVAILABLE DURING FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY GAMES/EVENTS OR DURING GAMES/EVENTS THAT FALL ON CERTAIN RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

TWENTY-FIVE SEASONS.
ONE NETWORK.
25
YES
YES, you're home.

2026 SCHEDULE

MARCH/APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			25 SF	26	27 SF	28 SF
29	30 SEA	31 SEA	1 SEA	2	3 MIA	4 MIA
5 MIA	6	7 ATH	8 ATH	9 ATH	10 TB	11 TB
12 TB	13 LAA	14 LAA	15 LAA	16 LAA	17 KC	18 KC
19 KC	20	21 BOS	22 BOS	23 BOS	24 HOU	25 HOU
26 HOU	27 TEX	28 TEX	29 TEX	30		

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 DET	2	3 MIN	4 MIN
5 MIN	6 TB	7 TB	8 TB	9 TB	10 WSH	11 WSH
12 WSH	13	14	15	16	17 LAD	18 LAD
19 LAD	20 PIT	21 PIT	22 PIT	23	24 PHI	25 PHI
26 PHI	27 CWS	28 CWS	29 CWS	30 CWS	31 CHC	

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 BAL	2 BAL
3 BAL	4 BAL	5 TEX	6 TEX	7 TEX	8 MIL	9 MIL
10 MIL	11 BAL	12 BAL	13 BAL	14	15 NYM	16 NYM
17 NYM	18 TOR	19 TOR	20 TOR	21 TOR	22 TB	23 TB
24 TB	25 KC	26 KC	27 KC	28	29 ATH	30 ATH
31 ATH						

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 CHC
2 CHC	3 STL	4 STL	5 STL	6	7 ATL	8 ATL
9 ATL	10	11 SEA	12 SEA	13 SEA	14 TOR	15 TOR
16 TOR	17	18 BAL	19 BAL	20 BAL	21 TOR	22 TOR
23 TOR	24	25 HOU	26 HOU	27 HOU	28 BOS	29 BOS
30 BOS	31 LAA					

OLD-TIMERS' DAY IS AUG. 8

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 CLE	3 CLE	4 CLE	5 BOS	6 BOS
7 BOS	8 CLE	9 CLE	10	11	12 TOR	13 TOR
14 TOR	15	16 CWS	17 CWS	18 CWS	19 CIN	20 CIN
21 CIN	22 DET	23 DET	24 DET	25 BOS	26 BOS	27 BOS
28 BOS	29 DET	30 DET				

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 LAA	2 LAA	3	4 SD	5 SD
6 SD	7	8 COL	9 COL	10 COL	11 NYM	12 NYM
13 NYM	14 MIN	15 MIN	16 MIN	17	18 AZ	19 AZ
20 AZ	21	22 TB	23 TB	24 TB	25 BAL	26 BAL
27 BAL	28	29	30			

HOME AWAY

*Listings noted with a red border and asterisk (*) have game times subject to determination by, among others, MLB and its television partners. Any future start-time changes to these games will also be accompanied by a change in the television partner.

FOR YANKEES TICKET INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT YANKEES.COM OR CALL (212) YANKEES.

ALL GAMES ARE P.M., EASTERN TIME.

TIME, OPPONENT, DATE AND TEAM ROSTERS AND LINEUPS, INCLUDING THE YANKEES' ROSTER AND LINEUP, ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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The number of innings in a regulation game shall be determined by Major League Baseball and may be shortened in accordance with Major League Baseball rules. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that nine (9) innings will be played in any regulation game.

The number of games in a regular season shall be determined by Major League Baseball. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that a regular season will be comprised of eighty-one (81) home games.

Game times listed are subject to determination by, among others, MLB and its television partners.

For the 2026 regular season, "Premium Games" are the following Games: (a) Opening Day home game; (b) Old-Timers' Day game; (c) all home games against the Boston Red Sox, Los Angeles Dodgers, Atlanta Braves, and New York Mets; (d) select home games on June 20, 2026 and July 4, 2026; and (e) any other game the Yankees determine (in its sole and absolute discretion) to be a Premium Game.

All individual game ticket prices are subject to variable and dynamic pricing, which provide fans with more price options based on changing factors that affect market demand.

In no event will the Yankees be liable to the ticket holder and/or ticket purchaser for any direct, indirect, consequential, exemplary, incidental, special or punitive damages or for lost profits, revenues or business opportunities even if the Yankees have been advised of the possibility of such damages.

Be advised that the Yankees reserve the right to take appropriate action against individuals who fraudulently obtain wheelchair accessible and/or companion seats, including, without limitation, ejection and legal action.

Tickets may not be used for advertising, promotion (including contests, giveaways, or sweepstakes), charitable, trade or commercial purposes without the express written consent of the Yankees.

Please note that protective netting of varying heights is located between Section 011 on the first base/right-field side of Yankee Stadium and continues to Section 029 on the third base/left-field side of Yankee Stadium, which is subject to change in the Yankees' discretion.

WARNING: For the safety of everyone in Yankee Stadium, all Guests must stay alert and be aware of their surroundings at all times, as during all batting practices, fielding practices and warm-ups and throughout the course of all baseball games and the baseball game experiences, hard-hit baseballs and bats and fragments thereof may be thrown or hit into the stands, concourses, walkways, concessions areas, Monument Park and all other publicly accessible areas within Yankee Stadium. Further, Guests concerned with their original ticketed location by reason of the foregoing should, at any time before or during the baseball game or the baseball game experiences, proceed to the Yankee Stadium Ticket Windows at the home plate end of the Great Hall across from the Yankees Team Store, however, please remember that: (a) any requested relocation is subject to availability; (b) any alternate seat or standing location may be in a section and/or level of Yankee Stadium and/or within a price category that is not in the same section and/or level and/or price category of the Guests' original ticketed location, regardless of their original ticketed location; and (c) any Guest requesting relocation is responsible for paying the incremental price increase, if any, of the ticket price for the available alternate location. Relocation to a seat or standing location at a lower price than the price of the original ticketed location will not result in a refund or credit.

WARNING: Guests may not transmit or aid in transmitting any photographs, images, videos, audio, livestreams or other accounts or descriptions (including play-by-play data), whether text, data or visual, in any media, now known or hereafter developed, of all or any part of the game or related events, without the express written consent of the Yankees.

NOTICE: For the safety of every Guest, all persons specifically consent to and are subject to: (a) being screened by metal detectors; (b) bag/clothing inspections; and (c) physical pat-down inspections prior to entry. Any item or property that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall not be permitted into Yankee Stadium. Any person that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall be denied entry.

NOTICE: The Yankees reserve the right, with or without refunding any amount paid by the ticket holder, to refuse admission to and/or eject any person who: (a) is or appears to be impaired; (b) consumes alcohol, illegal substances and/or other prohibited items while attempting to enter Yankee Stadium; (c) acts in a manner that is unruly, disruptive or illegal; (d) uses derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures; (e) displays and/or wears and fails to cover obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing; (f) exposes him/herself; (g) otherwise violates the Yankee Stadium Guest Code of Conduct; (h) interferes with any ball in the field of play or any sports or event participant attempting to make a play on any batted, pitched or thrown baseball; or (i) violates any law. Ticket holders acknowledge and agree that the Yankees' ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing does not violate their right to free speech and/or expression and that such time, place and manner of the restrictions are reasonable to maintain a family-friendly atmosphere for minors, ensure the safety of all Guests and sports or event participants, and preserve the enjoyment of the game or event for all Guests. In addition, ticket holders further acknowledge and agree that by entering the Stadium, they hereby consent to the ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing and waive, to the fullest extent they may legally and effectively do so, any objection they may now or hereafter have to such ban and the penalties that the Yankees may impose for any violation of the same.

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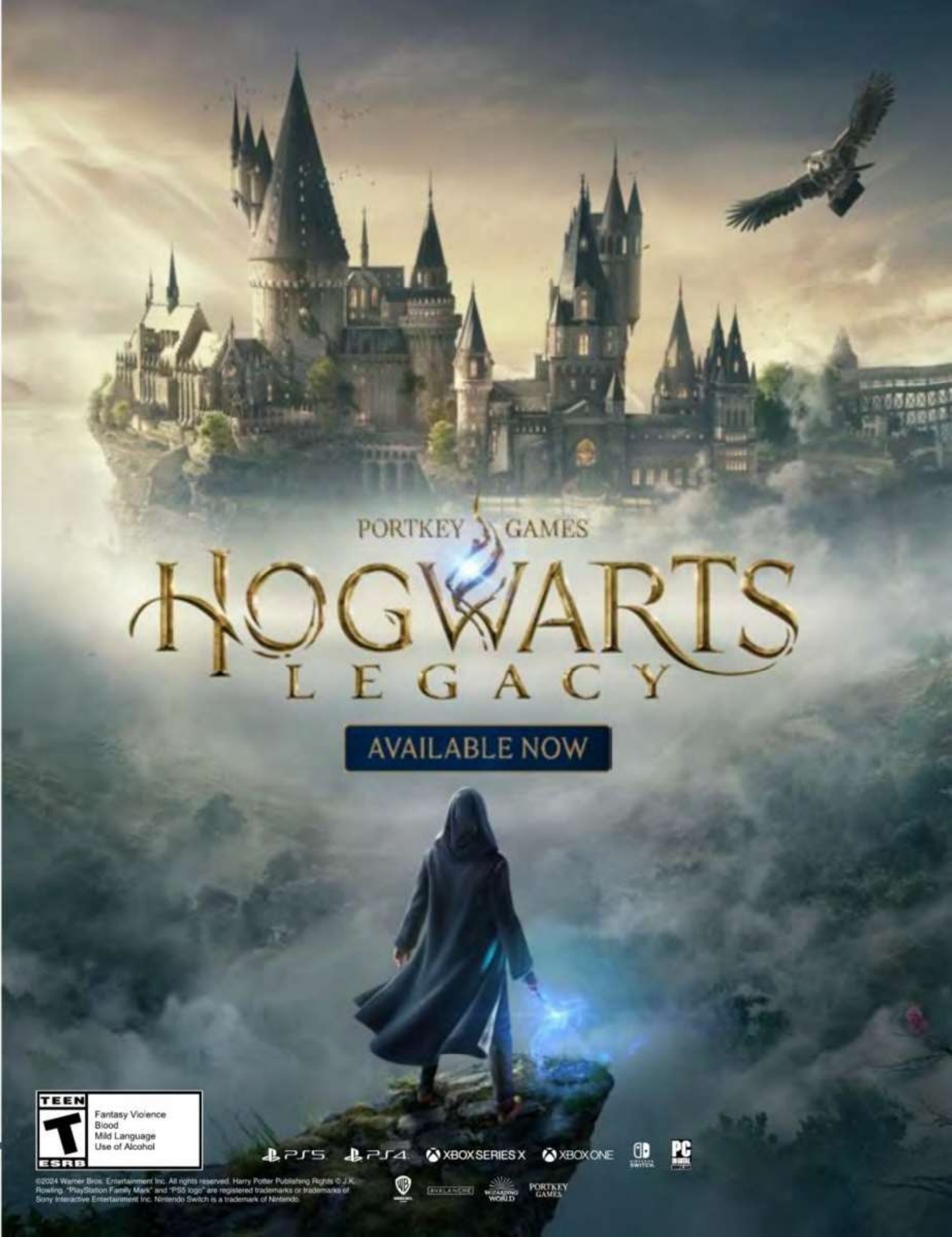
2026 YANKEES PROMOTIONAL DATES

DATE	ITEM	PRESENTED BY	DISTRIBUTION
April 4	Calendar Night	Mastercard	1st 40,000 Guests
April 17	Yankees Hockey Jersey Night	StubHub	1st 18,000 Guests
April 19	Hersheypark Kids Ticket Giveaway Day	Hersheypark	1st 10,000 Guests 14 and younger
May 2	Star Wars Day - Max Fried Mandalorian Bobblehead	CLEAR	1st 18,000 Guests
May 21	Cap Night	Budweiser	1st 18,000 Guests 21 and older
May 22	Giancarlo Stanton Basketball Jersey Night	State Farm	1st 18,000 Guests
June 2	Charles Fazzino's America250: A New York Yankees Celebration Poster Night	Charles Fazzino	1st 18,000 Guests
June 6	Military Appreciation Night - Red, White & Blue Yankees T-shirt	Ford	1st 18,000 Guests
June 18	Yankees Soccer Jersey Night	Bank of America	1st 18,000 Guests
June 20	Aaron Judge MVP Bobblehead Day	T-Mobile	1st 18,000 Guests
July 3	Fireworks Night	Baby Ruth	
July 4	Yankees Fourth of July Cap Day	Baby Ruth	All Guests
July 20	Yankees T-shirt Night	Sato	1st 15,000 Guests
Aug. 8	Old-Timers' Day	FreshDirect	
Aug. 21	Cody Bellinger Bobblehead Night	T-Mobile	1st 18,000 Guests
Aug. 22	Hello Kitty Yankees Bobblehead Day	Toyota	1st 18,000 Guests
Aug. 27	George Costanza Calzone Bobblehead Night	Starr	1st 18,000 Guests
Sept. 25	Josh Hart Yankees Bobblehead Night	Delta Air Lines	1st 18,000 Guests
Sept. 26	CC Sabathia Number Retirement and Monument Park Plaque Pregame Ceremony		

Purchasing a ticket for any promotional date does not guarantee that a Guest will receive the designated promotional item. Distribution of promotional items is for eligible Guests in attendance only, while supplies last. All promotional dates, items and distribution are subject to change and/or cancellation.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